GENERAL COUNCIL

of the

Evangelical and Reformed Church

1958

FALL MEETING

Hotel Burlington, Burlington, Iowa

September 16, 17, 18

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AND
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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL OF THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH

Hotel Burlington, Burlington, Iowa
September 16, 17, 18, 1958

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

General Council members present:

Rev. James E. Wagner, Chairman; Rev. Sheldon E. Mackey, Secretary; Mr. Allan G. Aigler, Mrs. E. Roy Corman, Mr. Donald C. Dearborn, Rev. George P. Ellerbrake, Rev. John W. Flucke, Rev. Thomas D. Garner, Rev. Ben M. Herbster, Mr. F. A. Keck, Rev. Erwin R. Koch, Rev. Emil N. Krafft, Rev. Willard A. Kratz, Mrs. Milton C. Lang, Mr. John W. Mueller, Mr. J. Milton Rasche, Mr. Harold F. Webber, Mr. Joseph C. Wetzel

Advisory members present:

Rev. Purd E. Deitz (National Missions), Rev. Dobbs F. Ehlman (International Missions), Rev. Franklin I. Sheeder (Christian Education and Publication), Rev. Robert C. Kienle (Business Management), Rev. Silas P. Bittner (Pensions and Relief), Rev. Fred C. Schweinfurth (Evangelism), Rev. F. Nelsen Schlegel (Christian Social Action), Rev. Otto R. Gerber (Higher Education), Rev. Paul E. Strauch (Stewardship), Rev. Reginald H. Helfferich (World Service), Rev. Harold H. Wilke (Church and Ministry), Rev. Carl C. Rasche (Benevolent Institutions), Mr. Charles H. Lockyear (Assistant Treasurer of the Church), Rev. Carl W. Klein, Rev. L. C. T. Miller, Rev. Perry L. Smith, Rev. Porter Bower and Mr. Matthias K. Schwarz (United Promotion), Rev. J. Kenneth Kohler (Churchmen's Brotherhood) Miss Frances Kapitzky and Miss Florence A. Partridge (Women's Guild), Rev. Elmer F. Ansley (THE MESSENGER), Rev. Alexander Toth (REFORMATUSOK LAPJA).

Visitors present at one or more sessions:

Rev. Ernst Press, President of Midwest Synod, Mrs. Ernst Press, Rev. and Mrs. R. G. Beck, Rev. Charles O. Ellett, Rev. and Mrs. F. A. Meusch, Mrs. J. Milton Rasche, Rev. and Mrs. John H. Schultz, Mr. Walter A. Ullrich.

Tuesday, September 16

The General Council was called to order by the Chairman at 9:06 a.m.

Dr. Herbster conducted the devotional service, which consisted of a meditation based upon John 3:22-30 and John 13:1-5, and a concluding prayer.

The attendance was recorded. On behalf of the continuing members of the General Council, President Wagner greeted the new members, Rev. George P. Ellerbrake and Rev. Thomas D. Garner. Referring to the absence of Mr. Bond and Dr. Gonser, he stated that Mr. Bond could not be present because of an exigency arising in his business, and that Dr. Gonser, after attending Correlation and Promotion meetings at Burlington on Monday, had gone home in order to officiate at a funeral but would return in time to lead the prayer service on Wednesday morning. (On Tuesday evening word was received that Dr. Gonser was ill, so could not come back to Burlington.)

The President welcomed the representatives of boards and agencies of the Church who were present as advisory members of the General Council, following which he extended a cordial greeting to the visitors.

AGENDA

Secretary Mackey presented the agenda for the meeting. The General Council

VOTED: 58-9-GC-1 to adopt the agenda with the understanding that additional items might be inserted if necessary.

HOURS FOR THE SESSIONS

The Secretary then presented a tentative time schedule for the sessions. This was accepted by common consent.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SOCIAL MEETINGS

Mr. Rasche told of plans made by the Evangelical and Reformed people of Burlington for the entertainment of the General Council and its advisory members at a luncheon on Tuesday and a dinner on Wednesday.

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD FEBRUARY 11-13, 1958

Dr. Mackey presented the minutes of the 1958 annual meeting of the General Council and stated that no items therein required the immediate attention of the Council. It was

VOTED: 58-9-GC-2 to adopt the minutes of the General Council meeting held February 11-13, 1958.

REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

The Secretary presented as the report of the Administrative Committee the minutes of meetings which the Committee had held on April 2, April 10 and June 16, 1958. It was

VOTED: 58-9-GC-3 to adopt the minutes of these meetings as the report of the Administrative Committee.

COMMITTEE ON THE REPORTS OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY

President Wagner announced that he had appointed Dr. Dearborn, Dr. Kratz and Mr. Bond as the Committee on the Reports of the President and the Secretary; in the absence of Mr. Bond, Dr. Herbster would serve as the third member of the Committee.

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

The President yielded the chairmanship of the meeting to the First Vice-President, Dr. Haas. Stating that his report had been prepared last summer prior to his departure for ecumenical meetings in Europe, he called attention to the principal items and to related appendices, particularly the reports of the several study committees. Recommending that the latter be referred to the Administrative Committee, he informed the General Council that the Committee, anticipating such a reference, had agreed upon the place and dates for a two-day meeting at which the reports would be considered.

Supplementary Report. Dr. Wagner then read in full a recently completed supplement to this report. In so doing he directed attention to a statement that he had asked Dr. Flucke and Mrs. Lang to study the matter of the proposed integration of the International Missionary Council and the World Council of Churches and to be prepared to speak concerning it to the General Council.

Resignation of Dr. Erwin R. Koch. Dr. Wagner read a letter from Dr. Koch in which the latter stated that for reasons of health he considered it his duty to resign from the General Council. The President assured Dr. Koch that he spoke not only for himself but for the General Council in expressing complete understanding of the reason for his resignation and very real regret at the prospective loss of his fellowship and service as a member of the Council.

Retirement of Rev. Otto Press. Dr. Wagner also read a letter from Rev. Otto Press confirming his decision, reported to the General Council last February, to retire as editor of DER FRIEDENSBOTE on December 31, 1958.

250th anniversary of the Church of the Brethren. The President suggested that the General Council send a message of felicitation to the Church of the Brethren, which is celebrating its 250th anniversary this year. The General Council

VOTED: 58-9-GC-4 to receive the report of the President, the supplementary report and the verbal addenda, and to refer them to the Committee on the Reports of the President and the Secretary.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

Secretary Mackey presented his report, directing attention to major items therein, and to certain appendices. He then requested that in addition to the overtures included in his report the following be received, together with proposals as to their disposition:

Overture 23. Directors of Christian Education as Members of Synod. West New York Synod overtures the General Council to initiate a study looking toward the recognition of full-time, trained Directors of Christian Education as members of synod, with appropriate rights.

Proposal: Direct attention of West New York Synod to By-Law 39 and By-Law 42.

Overture 24. Executive Secretary, Commission on Benevolent Institutions. Missouri Valley Synod overtures the General Synod to establish the office of full-time Executive Secretary of the Commission on Benevolent Institutions; said position to be filled by a lay person, if possible.

Proposal: Refer to the special committee which has been studying the possible need of the Commission on Benevolent Institutions for a full-time Executive Secretary.

The Secretary then presented for addition to Appendix 3 of his report (Data Concerning Ministers and Congregations of the Church) the following information:

Ministers

Received into Membership

Rev. Ronald E. Kehler, Ringtown, Pennsylvania, by Susquehanna Synod, September 5, 1958, from the Congregational Christian Churches.

Erased from the roll

Rev. George W. Heusinger, Norfolk, Nebraska, by Midwest Synod, September 10, 1958, at his own request.

Congregations

Received into Membership

St. Andrew's Church, R. D. 2, Bridgeville, Pennsylvania, by Pittsburgh Synod, May 25, 1958.

Dissolved

Zion Church, Everett, Washington, by Pacific Northwest Synod.

Changes in Synod Roster

North Wisconsin Synod

St. Paul's Church and St. Peter's Church, R. D. 2, Elkhart Lake, Wisconsin, have been constituted as the Rhine-Russell Charge.

The Fremont-Dale Charge has been dissolved, and the former constituents, Hope Church, Fremont, Wisconsin, and Zion Church, Dale, Wisconsin, have been constituted as separate charges.

The General Council

VOTED: 58-9-GC-5 to receive the Secretary's report, with the inclusion of the verbal addenda, and to refer it to the Committee on the Reports of the President and the Secretary.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER

President Wagner, again presiding, called for the report of the Treasurer.

Treasurer Keck stated that certain matters which he had taken up with the Committee on Finance and Budget would come to the General Council through the report of that Committee. At this time he need only inform the Council that payments on the increased guaranteed advance to the boards and agencies of the Church were approximately $300,000 in excess of the apportionment and World Service receipts, which had decreased as a result of the current business and industrial recession. The Treasurer expressed the hope that an upward trend in the economic cycle would enable the Church to balance receipts and expenditures by the end of the fiscal year.

The report of the Treasurer was received by common consent.

REPORT OF THE COUNSELOR

First Church, Portland, Oregon. Counselor Mueller reported that trial of the suit filed by Pacific Northwest Synod against First Church, Portland, Oregon, had been set for July 29, but had not taken place. Instead, the case had been settled through negotiations whereby it had been agreed that the congregation would purchase

the church property at a price of $6,250, payable within sixty days, and the Evangelical and Reformed Church would execute in duplicate a quitclaim deed conveying to the congregation full right, title and interest in the property, and would also issue a blanket release freeing all persons concerned from further responsibility in this matter. The congregation, having been precluded by a court order from using the names "Evangelical and Reformed" or "Evangelical Reformed" in its official title, had agreed to amend its charter by severing all connection with the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

At the counselor's request, the General Council

VOTED: 58-9-GC-6 on behalf of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to authorize the execution of the quitclaim deed in duplicate, the issuance of the blanket release, and the signing of these documents by the President and the Secretary of the Church.

Dr. Mueller stated that the foregoing action would be implemented and the documents notarized before the close of this meeting of the General Council.

President Wagner commented that the wisdom of the General Council's directive to Pacific Northwest Synod to file suit against First Church had been proven by the eventualities of this action. The disaffection of First Church is part of a larger picture in the synod, where some of our congregations are being influenced by a fundamentalist movement led by pastors not affiliated with the Evangelical and Reformed Church. The use of our name, or a variant of it, by these churches has drawn protests from other churches of the synod that our denominational position is being compromised. For this reason the enjoinder that First Church desist from using the name "Evangelical Reformed" was as important as the securing of a rather nominal indemnity for the church property. Furthermore, the terms of the settlement reached with First Church have aided the efforts of Pacific Northwest Synod to forestall disaffection on the part of other churches under its jurisdiction.

Hillsdale Church, Portland, Oregon. Dr. Wagner stated that in this church the Pacific Northwest Synod is engaged in a conciliatory process which promises to bear good fruits. Although the congregation as a whole is loyal to the Evangelical and Reformed Church, some of its members have been influenced by the fundamentalist pressure through which First Church was lost to our denomination. Upon learning that the congregation, which had been without a pastor for some time, wished to issue a call to James W. Hagelganz, the Pacific Northwest Synod, with the approval of the Administrative Committee, consented to ordain Mr. Hagelganz and install him as pastor of the church, despite the fact that in his student days he had not been under the care of the synod. In this manner it regularized his status in our ministry and secured from him and the congregation an acknowledgment of their amenability to the synod.

Goss Memorial Church, Akron, Ohio. Counselor Mueller spoke of encouraging developments in the situation at Goss Memorial Church. The congregation, which voted to withdraw from the United Church of Christ, has been reassured by the information that the structure of the Evangelical and Reformed Church will remain intact until a constitution for the United Church has been adopted. It is now willing to continue as a constituent of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and possibly, in the light of better information concerning the doctrinal position of the United Church, to reconsider its decision to withdraw from that body. The pastor of Goss Church died last March, and the congregation is in the process of securing a new minister.

United Church of Christ: Lawsuit. Reporting upon the suit entered against the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the General Council of the Congregational Christian Churches by opponents of the union, Dr. Mueller stated that our answers to the charges brought by the plaintiffs had been prepared; this had been a difficult task in view of the necessity of preserving and protecting our conception of the United Church of Christ as being a Church in the fullest sense of the word, and not a mere federation of churches.

More recently the couselor received from Dr. Malcolm Burton a copy of a statement which he had presented at the meeting of the Congregational Christian General Council last June. Obviously prepared by legal counsel, the document catalogues the violations of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Congregational Christian General Council of which that body allegedly is guilty through having joined with the Evangelical and Reformed Church to establish the United Church of Christ. The charges set forth in this document will undoubtedly be used by the plaintiffs in the lawsuit and will add to the difficulties of the defendants.

Incorporation of Kansas City and South Illinois Synods. The counselor reported that Kansas City Synod and South Illinois Synod had become incorporated, and that he had approved the articles of incorporation in each instance.

Edinburg Reformed Church, near Springfield, Illinois. Dr. Mueller informed the General Council that some years ago the Edinburg Church had been made the beneficiary of a trust fund. Today the membership consists of only six persons, one of whom serves as lay preacher on Sundays. This group has displayed a marked indifference to the South Illinois Synod and the Evangelical and Reformed Church. In accordance with advice given by the counselor, the synod plans to petition the courts to terminate the trust fund, since it no longer serves the purpose for which it was created, and to make the money available for work of the Evangelical and Reformed Church in that area.

Ownership of cemetery. The counselor stated that with the aid of Secretary Mackey and members of South Illinois Synod he had been seeking to ascertain the ownership of a cemetery adjoining the defunct Salem Church near Waterloo, Illinois.

Zion Church, Toppenish, Washington. The counselor reported that Zion Church, which has been under the care of the Board of National Missions, is to be taken over by the Evangelical United Brethren Church. A very fair agreement has been concluded whereby the Evangelical and Reformed Church will receive some reimbursement for the property.

The General Council

VOTED: 58-9-GC-7 to authorize the President and the Secretary of the Church to execute a quitclaim deed relinquishing whatever right, title or interest the Evangelical and Reformed Church may have in the property of Zion Church, Toppenish, Washington.

The report of the counselor was received with appreciation.

GREETINGS TO DR. STAHR AND DR. KLEMME

At President Wagner's request, Dr. Kienle spoke of the illness of Dr. Henry I. Stahr, a member and former President of the Board of Business Management, and Rev. Nelsen Schlegel told of the illness of Dr. Huber F. Klemme, Executive Secretary of the Commission on Christian Social Action. The General Council

VOTED: 58-9-GC-8 to request Secretary Mackey to send the greetings and good wishes of the Council to Dr. Stahr and Dr. Klemme.

REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PROCEDURES FOR THE ELECTION OF DELEGATES AND ALTERNATES TO THE GENERAL SYNOD

The report of the special committee was presented by Dr. Haas, who stated that the procedures recommended by the committee were applicable not only to the election of delegates and alternates to the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church but also to the election of delegates and alternates to the General Synod of the United Church of Christ. After a brief discussion during which the report was amended slightly, it was

VOTED: 58-9-GC-9 that because of misunderstanding on the part of some synods and dissatisfaction on the part of other synods in regard to the procedures for the election of delegates and alternates to the General Synod as delineated in the report of the Committee on Constitutional Matters in the 1958 Blue Book for the Synods, the General Council adopts the procedures suggested by the special committee, commends them to the synods for their guidance, and refers them to the Committee on Constitutional Matters for consideration as to whether they should be recommended as amendments to the By-Laws.

Suggested Procedures for the Election of
Delegates and Alternates to the General Synod

Delegates

On every ballot those receiving a majority vote shall be declared elected.

The first ballot shall be an open ballot. After the first ballot the election shall proceed in the following manner:

On the second ballot the number of nominees shall be four times as many as the number of delegates still to be elected. The nominees shall be those who received the highest non-majority votes on the first ballot. In the event of a tie vote in this category, the names of both nominees shall appear on the second ballot.

On the third ballot the number of nominees shall be three times the number of delegates still to be elected.

On the fourth ballot the number of nominees shall be twice the number of delegates still to be elected.

On each succeeding ballot the nominees shall be those not elected on the preceding ballot, except that the candidate who received the lowest number of votes on the preceding ballot shall not be nominated again.

This process shall continue until the full number of delegates has been elected.

Alternates

After all delegates have been elected, alternates shall be elected. On every ballot those receiving a majority vote shall be declared elected.

On the first ballot the nominees shall be those remaining from the second ballot for delegates.

On the second ballot twice the number still to be elected shall be nominated.

On each succeeding ballot the nominees shall be those not elected on the preceding ballot, except that the two candidates who received the lowest number of votes on that ballot shall not be nominated again.

This process shall continue until the full number of alternates has been elected.

Open ballot for delegates

The open ballot for ministers as delegates shall consist of the names of all ministers who are members of the synod, except those who for specific reasons have asked that their names not appear.

The open ballot for lay delegates shall consist of the names of all accredited lay delegates to the annual meeting of the synod, the lay members of the Synodical Council, and lay persons who may be suggested from the floor. Any member of any congregation of the synod is eligible to be a candidate.

RECESS

A recess was taken from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE FUTURE OF THE DEACONESS ORDER

At President Wagner's invitation Dr. Carl C. Rasche, Chairman of the Committee to Study the Future of the Deaconess Order, addressed the General Council. After outlining the history of the deaconess movement and describing its decline in this country within recent years, Dr. Rasche told the General Council that other Protestant Churches in the United States are striving to rebuild the deaconess work in a manner which will attract young women as recruits. He then presented the report of the Committee to Study the Future of the Deaconess Order in the Evangelical and Reformed Church. Replying to a question concerning parish visitation as a responsibility of the deaconess order, he stated that in the opinion of the Study Committee parish visitation, which has always occupied a minor place in the programs of Evangelical and Reformed sisterhoods, is not logically a part of their work; in the future it should be eliminated and the activities of the deaconesses restricted to the social and welfare work with which the deaconess order is traditionally associated in our Church.

President Wagner thanked Dr. Rasche and the members of his committee for their excellent work. Mrs. Corman, as a member of the committee, expressed appreciation of Dr. Rasche's splendid leadership.

ADDITIONAL REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

Dr. Mackey read the minutes of a meeting of the Administrative Committee which had been held at Burlington on Monday. The General Council

VOTED: to adopt as an additional report of the Administrative Committee
58-9-GC-10 the minutes of the meeting held September 15, 1958.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE REPORTS OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY - I

The report of the Committee on the Reports of the President and the Secretary was presented by the Chairman, Dr. Dearborn, with First Vice-President Haas presiding.

The report was acted upon item by item. In most instances final action was taken on Tuesday, but in others it was taken on Wednesday or Thursday.

On Tuesday item 4 was adopted and item 5 was amended and adopted as amended. Item 18 was referred back to the Committee. On Thursday a substitute for item 18 was submitted by the Committee but was not adopted. While it was under discussion, items 4 and 5 were reconsidered. A substitute for item 4 was adopted. In place of item 5 and item 18 there was adopted an item of which part "a" was a substitute for item 5 and part "b" was a substitute for item 18. This became item 5 of the Committee's report. (Through the elimination of item 18 the subsequent items were renumbered.)

Item 8 was adopted on Tuesday. On Wednesday an additional resolution was adopted as part "b" of item 8.

Item 22 was adopted with an editorial change.

Item 25 was adopted with the addition of a new resolution which was designated as part "b".

A new item which was adopted on Wednesday became item 27 of the report.

Item 30 was adopted on Tuesday, but on Wednesday was reconsidered, amended, and adopted as amended.

Item 32 was referred back to the committee on Tuesday. On Wednesday a substitute was offered by the committee and was adopted.

When item 33 was under consideration note was taken of overtures 23 and 24, which had been presented by the Secretary as addenda to his report. (See page 3 of these minutes.) The General Council's actions upon these two overtures became parts "f" and "g", respectively, of item 34.

Item 36 was stricken from the report.

A new item which was adopted on Wednesday became item 37 of the report.

Item 38 was amended and adopted as amended.

All other items of the report were adopted without change.

Items 28 and 38 were adopted by rising votes and applause.

The report of the Committee on the Reports of the President and the Secretary, in its final form, is as follows:

Report of the President

1. The General Council expresses the gratitude of the Church to the Reverend Roy W. Limbert, D.D., and the Reverend John L. Schmidt, D.D., for their devoted service, and regrets their inability to continue in office. While no man literally takes the place of another, the General Council welcomes their successors, the Rev. Thomas D. Garner, D.D., and the Reverend George P. Ellerbrake, confident that they, too, will serve their Church well.

2. (a) The General Council refers the items from the report of the Board of Business Management concerning the Reverend Otto Press and DER FRIEDENSBOTE to the Committee on Publication.

(b) The General Council refers the item concerning the gift of $10,000 from Eden Publishing House to the Committee on Finance and Budget.

3. The General Council refers to the Committee on Publication the request of the Board of Business Management for a study of printing matters.

4. The General Council approves the petition of the Commission on Higher Education that the General Council and the General Synod open the way for the educational institutions of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to approach for capital funds the synods and congregations in the areas which are historically and geographically associated with the educational institutions, providing that prior approval of the General Council and the synods concerned be secured, and that, further, there be adequate safeguards of the dignity and self-respect of congregations which cannot respond.

5. The General Council, being convinced of the enthusiasm and generosity of the synods and congregations in their support of the denominational apportionment,

(a) approves the request of Heidelberg College for permission to conduct a capital funds campaign in the four Ohio synods and Michigan-Indiana Synod

(b) approves the request of the Home for the Aged, Upper Sandusky, Ohio, for permission to launch a $600,000 capital funds campaign in the supporting synods, beginning September 1958 and continuing for two years.

6. The General Council refers the reports of the several Study Committees to the Administrative Committee with the request that definite recommendations with respect to each be made to the February, 1959, meeting of the General Council.

7. The General Council directs the Secretary to express its sincere appreciation to the men and women who have served as these Study Committees for the diligence with which they have approached their assignments and for the statesmanlike quality of their findings, and to assure them of the gratitude of the Church for their devoted service.

8. (a) The General Council requests the Commission on Church and Ministry to make such comments and suggestions as it cares to on the proposed statement of policy with respect to ordination and commissioning, and further requests that such comments be made before the February, 1959, meeting of the General Council so that the proposal may be considered at that meeting.

(b) The General Council expresses its agreement with the position taken by the President with respect to the request for ordination of a graduate of an unaccredited seminary who did not intend to serve in the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

9. The General Council refers to the Committee on Correlation and Promotion, for study and recommendation to the General Council, the proposals concerning synodical committees of Midwest Synod and Central Pennsylvania Synod, and the report of the President of Midwest Synod.

10. The General Council refers to the Committee on Correlation and Promotion the matter of a Foundation for receiving gifts and bequests for the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

11. The General Council refers to the Committee on Finance and Budget the request of the National Council of Churches for financial support of its Faith and Order Project.

12. The General Council rejoices that twenty-five of our synods have seen fit to establish the office of full-time president. Notable advances in the life and work of the Church have occurred and will continue to take place in these synods. At the same time, the General Council renews it expression of indebtedness to those men who have served and are now serving in the demanding position of part-time president and extends its special felicitations to those seven men who have assumed this office within recent months.

13. The General Council expresses its gratitude to the President of the Church for his informative report on the expanding work of the United Church of Christ and utters a prayer of thanksgiving for the blessing of the Lord which has seemed to rest on this venture of unity.

14. The General Council authorizes the Administrative Committee to appoint the seventy-five associate members of the second General Synod of the United Church of Christ.

15. The General Council refers to the Committee on Constitutional Matters the preparation of amendments to the By-Laws necessary to provide for biennial, rather than triennial, meetings of the General Synod and for such other actions as are necessary by the General Synod to effect such a schedule of meetings.

16. The General Council affirms the desirability of inviting fraternal delegates from the Honduras and Ecuador mission fields to the General Council of the World Alliance of Reformed and Presbyterian Churches in Brazil and directs the President to confer with the Board of International Missions concerning the selection of such delegates and the payment of their expenses, approving the suggestions contained in the President's report.

17. The General Council authorizes the Administrative Committee to invite fraternal delegates to the 1959 General Synod from the national Churches on such of our mission fields as it and the Board of International Missions shall deem appropriate.

18. The General Council approves the amendment of the Articles of Incorporation of the Mission House Theological Seminary, Inc., adopted by the Board of Trustees of the Mission House Theological Seminary, Inc., February 3, 1958.

19. The General Council approves the election of Mr. Paul Hammer to the faculty of the Mission House Theological Seminary, subject to final confirmation by the General Synod.

20. The General Council elects the Rev. Frederick D. Eyster, D.D., as a member of the Board of Trustees of Franklin and Marshall College for a term of five years, beginning July 1, 1958.

21. The General Council designates the Administrative Committee as the Committee on Arrangements for the General Synod of 1959 and empowers the Administrative Committee to appoint the General Synod committees.

22. The General Council authorizes the President to invite the Congregational Christian General Council to send a fraternal delegation of ten persons representing the Congregational Christian Churches to the 1959 General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, suggesting that such delegation be made up, not of denominational officials and board staff members, but rather of pastors and lay men and women who would be typical of their laity and parish ministry.

23. (a) The General Council expresses its gratitude to Dr. Norman E. McClure for his thirty years of service to Ursinus College and especially for his twenty-two years as president of that institution. Its progress as one of the outstanding colleges of the nation is testimony to his inspired leadership. We wish for him many happy years of profitable and productive scholarship and teaching.

(b) The General Council extends its congratulations and best wishes to Dr. Donald L. Helfferich as he assumes the office of president of Ursinus College. The Council is assured of the continued development of Ursinus under his administration.

24. The General Council refers the request of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches for increased support to the Committee on Finance and Budget for report at the February, 1959, meeting.

25. (a) The General Council accepts with sincere regret the resignation of the Rev. Erwin R. Koch, D.D. He has given outstanding service to the Church through his membership on this Council, and we shall miss his wisdom, his kindness, and his regard for others in seeking solutions to difficult problems. We pray for his restoration to the full service of his beloved Church.

(b) The General Council authorizes the Administrative Committee to nominate a successor to Dr. Koch as a member of the General Council, this nomination to be subject to a mail vote of the Council prior to its February, 1959, meeting.

26. The General Council of the Evangelical and Reformed Church at its semi-annual meeting in Burlington, Iowa, September 16-18, 1958, extends greetings to the Church of the Brethren in this their 250th anniversary year and expresses its grateful appreciation of the witness which this sister communion has constantly given in its piety, its exaltation of the Holy Scriptures as the rule of faith and practice, its testimony against war and force and in behalf of love as the Christian compulsion to the achievement of righteousness, and its unfailing service of compassion wherever human need is found. The General Council particularly welcomes the fellowship of the Brethren in the ecumenical movement, and prays that under the Lordship of Christ both we and they may be used to further the unity and cooperation of all who are called by His name.

27. (a) The General Council approves the expenditures noted in the Supplementary Report of the President ("Alliance": items 1, 2, 3; "World Council": item 3).

(b) The General Council requests the Committee on Finance and Budget to consider the advisability of including in future budgets an amount to be spent at the discretion of the President for such purposes as the preparation and circulation of literature issued by ecumenical bodies.

28. The General Council expresses again its continued appreciation for the outstanding service of the Reverend James E. Wagner, D.D., as President of the Church and for the undergirding faith in his and our Lord and Saviour which he displays in that office.

Report of the Secretary

29. The General Council approves the arrangements for its meeting at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 14-17, 1959.

30. The General Council approves the use of the form "Qualifications of a Minister or Lay Member" and directs that one copy be furnished to the Chairman of the Nominating Committee and the second to the office of the General Council of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

31. The General Council approves the edited statement of its policy regarding federated churches and united churches.

32. The General Council commends the congregations, boards and agencies of the Church for their cooperation in the Advance Program of the present triennium. If we are to achieve the goals we have set in the areas of life enlistment, increased church membership, establishment of new mission churches, recruitment of personnel for overseas work and general participation in the life and work of the Church, we must accomplish far more during the remainder of the triennium than available statistics indicate that we have done thus far. We pray, with God's help we will Advance.

33. The General Council refers:

(a) Overtures 1-9, 11, 16, 17, 18 and 19 to the Committee on Correlation and Promotion;

(b) Overtures 10, 12, 13 and 14 to the Committee on Constitutional Matters;

(c) Overture 20 to the Committee to Study the Church's Responsibility Toward the Mentally Ill and the Mentally Retarded;

(d) Overture 21 to the Commission on Church and Ministry and the Theological Committee;

(e) Overture 22 to the Committee on Liturgics;

(f) Overture 23 to the Theological Committee;

(g) Overture 24 to the Committee to Study the Possible Need of the Commission on Benevolent Institutions for a Full-time Executive Secretary.

34. The General Council expresses its appreciation to the Board of National Missions for its report on the plan of the Loaned Church Building Fund and refers the report to the Committee on Finance and Budget.

35. The General Council calls the attention of pastors and congregations to the statement on inter-faith marriage adopted by the General Synod in 1953 and published by the Commission on Christian Social Action, and urges its use in educational and counseling programs.

36. The General Council expresses its appreciation to the boards and commissions which have furnished reports of their work, and its commendation to all those agencies which are contributing to the strength and growth of the Church.

37. The General Council approves a suggestion of the Secretary that the minutes of its meetings be issued in bound form.

38. The General Council commends the Secretary of the Church, the Reverend Sheldon E. Mackey, D.D., for the efficient and devoted manner in which he has conducted his office and, in addition, has fulfilled the duties of Administrative Assistant to the President.

INTEGRATION OF INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY COUNCIL AND WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Dr. Wagner called for the report of the special committee (Dr. Flucke and Mrs. Lang) which had been appointed to consider the matter of the integration of the International Missionary Council with the World Council of Churches. Before the committee reported, Dr. Ehlman and Dr. Helfferich spoke in support of the contemplated union. Both members of the special committee then recommended that the General Council express approval of the integration of the two ecumenical bodies and endorse in substance the plan for its accomplishment. Upon completion of the committee's report it was

VOTED: 58-9-GC-11 that the General Council goes on record as favoring the principle of integration of the International Missionary Council and the World Council of Churches provided a satisfactory plan is evolved. The plan now before us generally commends itself to us, and we have no specific recommendation for its amendment.

RECESS

A recess was taken from 5:50 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

In the evening the General Council met as committees.

Wednesday, September 17

PRAYER SERVICE

The General Council and its advisory members assembled at 8:45 a.m. for a prayer service. Dr. Wagner, substituting for Dr. Gonser, who was ill, led the service and spoke upon the theme chosen by Dr. Gonser: "When the Church Was Very Young."

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Council met in executive session from 9:40 a.m. until 10:55 a.m. No actions were taken at this time.

RECESS AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Following the executive session the General Council recessed for several hours, the latter part of the morning and the early part of the afternoon having been set aside for committee meetings.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE REPORTS OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY - II

The General Council met in open session at 3:40 p.m. The Second Vice-President, Dr. Mueller, presided while Dr. Dearborn reported a second time for the Committee on the Reports of the President and the Secretary. The General Council took the actions upon items 8b, 27, 30, 32 and 38 which are recorded in these minutes on page 9.

Dr. Dearborn asked and received permission to defer until the next morning a report upon item 18, which had been referred back to the Committee.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION

The report of the Committee on Publication was presented by the Chairman, Dr. Koch.

The report was acted upon item by item. Item 7 was amended and adopted as amended. The other items were adopted without change.

Item 2 was adopted by a rising vote.

In presenting item 5 Dr. Koch stated that the discontinuance of Der Friedensbote as of December 31, 1958, would bring to an end a publication which the Evangelical Synod of North American had begun in the year 1850.

The report as adopted is as follows:

1. The General Council approves the destruction of certain plates for books no longer being published by the Evangelical and Reformed Church, now in the possession of G. S. Ferguson Company, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

2. The General Council accepts with regret the resignation of Rev. Otto Press as editor of Der Friedensbote. For thirty-five years Rev. Mr. Press rendered outstanding service to the Church by his dedicated and consecrated labors as editor of the German language publication. Next to the German Bible and hymn book, Der Friedensbote was for generations the source of inspiring devotional material in the homes of so many of our people to whom German was the mother tongue.

Elected as editor in 1923, he continued the fine tradition of the publication which had its origin in the early days of the Evangelical Synod of North America, and when the merger of the Evangelical Synod and the Reformed Church in the United States brought about the merger of Der Friedensbote and Die Kirchenzeitung, he maintained the high standards of both publications.

In these later years he gave himself sacrificially to the work which for him was a labor of love, not wishing to withhold from his loyal readers the inspiration and information they derived from the Church paper published in the language of their forefathers. As he retires from his duties as editor, the General Council acknowledges with gratitude the great contribution made by this devoted servant of his Lord and wishes for him the peace which passes all understanding, and the satisfaction of knowing that he was faithful to his trust in fullest measure.

3. The General Council approves the action of the Board of Business Management in continuing the salary of Rev. Otto Press until December 31, 1958.

4. The General Council approves the action of the Board of Business Management in engaging Rev. W. G. Mauch as assistant to Rev. Otto Press for the balance of the year.

5. The General Council directs the Board of Business Management to discontinue the publication of Der Friedensbote as of December 31, 1958, and instructs the Board to refund the unearned subscriptions.

6. The General Council approves the distribution of an English edition of the July-August, 1959, issue of the Reformatusok Lapja at the General Synods of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the United Church of Christ at Oberlin, July, 1959, with the understanding that no additional subsidy will be required.

7. The General Council requests the boards and agencies of the Church to report to the Committee on Publication their experience in implementing the directives of the General Synods of 1953 and 1956 regarding the printing of their materials at Eden Publishing House. It is particularly interested in ascertaining what proportion of their work has been done by Eden Publishing House and the reasons for their decisions to place it with other firms when such was the case. It asks that this information be made available by January 1, 1959.

8. The General Council notes with satisfaction that the publication of the United Church Herald will begin October 9, 1958, and is gratified with the report of an enthusiastic response on the part of our people.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND BUDGET

The report of the Committee on Finance and Budget was presented by the Secretary, Mr. Wetzel.

Action upon item 1 was deferred until the next meeting of the General Council.

Items 3 and 5 were amended and adopted as amended.

The other items of the report were adopted without change.

The report as adopted is as follows:

1. The General Council acknowledges the receipt of 100 shares of Pennsylvania Power and Light Company stock from an anonymous donor, and directs that the Treasurer deposit same in the Memorial Fund and that the income therefrom be paid to the National Missions Building Fund for a period of five years.

2. The Committee on Finance and Budget has reviewed the report of the Treasurer for the period ending August 31, 1958, showing a net decrease of apportionment giving of $34,482.20 compared to 1957. Receipts will be about $350,000 below the amount required to meet our guaranteed advance as of September 30, 1958. We do, however, have faith in our churches that by the end of the fiscal year this deficit will be overcome.

We recommend the approval of this report by the General Council.

3. The General Council directs that the balance of the amount received in settlement of Evangelical and Reformed Church vs. First Evangelical Reformed Church of Portland, Oregon, after reimbursement for all expenses incurred, be paid to the Pacific Northwest Synod for purposes defined in the By-Laws.

4. The General Council acknowledges the receipt of $168.15 from the Central Evangelical and Reformed Church of Jefferson City, Missouri, for the United Church Administration Fund, and directs the Treasurer to place this amount in the Church Union Fund.

5. The General Council concurs in the recommendation of the Board of Business Management to pay $75.00 per month, plus necessary travel expense, to Rev. W. G. Mauch as assistant to the editor of Der Friedensbote for the balance of the calendar year, and to continue payment to Rev. Otto Press of the present salary, rental allowance and group insurance to December 31, 1958.

6. The General Council accepts the report of the Assistant Treasurer showing receipts of $6,311.96 from principal and interest collections on Student Loan notes and the reactivating of 19 delinquent notes.

7. The General Council directs the Treasurer to pay from the Contingent Fund the sum of $600.00 to the National Council Faith and Order Project for 1958, and the sum of $1,300.00 per year for 1959, 1960 and 1961.

8. The General Council approves the recommendations of the Board of National Missions for the Loaned Church Building Fund, as follows:

(a) The interest rate to investors should be established at 3%. This new interest rate shall be offered to previous investors.

(b) The minimum investment, formerly set at $500.00, to be reduced to $100.00. Beyond the minimum, the investments should be in multiples of $100.00.

(c) In lending this money to churches, three-year loans are to bear 4% interest; five-year loans, 4½% interest.

9. The General Council favors the sending of four additional fraternal delegates from Honduras and Ecuador to the Brazil meeting of the World Alliance of Reformed and Presbyterian Churches, and requests the Board of International Missions to share expenses on a fifty-fifty basis. Our necessary funds are to be paid from the Ecumenical Travel Fund.

10. The General Council acknowledges the receipt of $10,000.00 from Eden Publishing House and will allocate same, upon receipt of additional information, at the February meeting.

11. The General Council authorizes the Treasurer to pay $1,000.00 for the mailing of 2,000 copies of the 44-page booklet describing the World Council, from the Contingent Fund. (Reference: President's Supplementary Report: page 4, item 3)

WOMEN'S GUILD

President Wagner invited the President of the Women's Guild, Miss Frances Kapitzky, to say a few words. Miss Kapitzky told of the educational work of the Guild. She then expressed her appreciation of the privilege of attending the 1958 meetings of the Congregational Christian General Council and the International Congregational Council as a fraternal delegate.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CORRELATION AND PROMOTION - I

Gass Memorial Center, India. Dr. Haas, Chairman of the Committee on Correlation and Promotion, presented the following item of the Committee's report:

10. The General Council requests Dr. Ehlman to make a brief statement relative to the situation at Gass Memorial Center in India and, if possible, the reason for the refusal of a visa to a nurse.

By common consent item 10 was adopted.

Dr. Ehlman reported that the Board of International Missions had attempted to send to the Gass Memorial Center at Raipur, India, a nurse of German nationality who had been recommended by the Bremen Mission Society. Without explanation, she was denied a visa by the Indian authorities. In Dr. Ehlman's opinion this was not an act of discrimination against our Church or its Board of International Missions but rather an expression of nationalistic sentiment on the part of those who refused to issue the visa. Referring to a riot in which the Gass Memorial Center had been extensively damaged, Dr. Ehlman stated that although Nehru had expressed regret that disorder of this kind occurred in India, there had been no apology on the part of Raipur officials in reply to a protest registered by the governing board of the Gass Memorial Center. The Center at present is under guard. The roof has been repaired and the windows boarded up, but no major reconstruction will be undertaken until there is an expressed desire for it on the part of the community. In the meantime, Rev. Gurbachan Singh, operating from his home, under police protection, continues as superintendent of the Center, with responsibility for its extension program of social and welfare service and recreation.

RECESS

At 5:03 p.m. the General Council recessed for the night.

SOCIAL MEETING AT ZION CHURCH, BURLINGTON

In the evening the members and advisory members of the General Council were the guests of the Evangelical and Reformed people of Burlington and vicinity at a dinner in Zion Church.

Thursday, September 18

The General Council reassembled at 9:30 a.m. Dr. Wagner led the members in a brief devotional period consisting of a meditation and a prayer.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CORRELATION AND PROMOTION - II

Dr. Haas completed the presentation of the report of the Committee on Correlation and Promotion.

The report was acted upon item by item.

Items 5, 17, 21 and 25 were amended and adopted as amended.

Item 18 was amended and referred to the Committee on Finance and Budget for report to the General Council next February. The boards and agencies and general offices of the Church were requested to provide the Committee on Finance and Budget with estimates of the annual cost of coverage for all their lay employees under the

Retirement Fund for Lay Workers, and to furnish this information to the Committee not later than December 31, 1958.

The other items of the report were adopted without change. When item 23a was adopted, Dr. Wagner stated that the Administrative Committee, at a meeting held early that morning, had been informed of this item and had appointed Dr. Mueller, Mr. Webber, Dr. Mackey, Mr. Louis H. Goebel and Dr. Bittner as the committee to deal with overtures 1-6.

The report in its final form is as follows:

1. The General Council, anticipating in the near future a procedure for allocating benevolent monies within the United Church of Christ, directs that for the time being our present system of dispersing apportionment monies be continued.

2. The General Council adopts the proposed Policy on the Union Church as a policy applicable to all union churches in which Evangelical and Reformed congregations are involved.

3. (a) The General Council commends the Department of United Promotion for their excellent work in producing the special issue of The Messenger which features the third phase of the Program of Advance.

(b) The General Council expresses to Dr. Purd E. Deitz its appreciation of his assistance in preparing the text of the Advance issue of The Messenger.

(c) The General Council assures Mr. William R. Pelster and the staff of Eden Publishing House of its gratitude for their fine workmanship and efficiency in printing and distributing the Advance issue of The Messenger.

4. The General Council, approving the plan for presenting the total program of the Church to the seniors at Lancaster Theological Seminary, expresses the hope that a similar procedure may be followed by Eden and Mission House Theological Seminaries.

5. The General Council requests the Special Committee on Group Health Insurance to continue its studies with a view to presenting at the February meeting a plan which would incorporate the best features of the South Wisconsin Synod Plan and Plan A of the Special Committee, together with costs on the basis of the inclusion of all ministers of our Church and also on the basis of the participants paying their own premiums. The General Council further requests the Sepcial Committee to secure information concerning the cost of such a plan if it should include lay employees of the Church.

6. The General Council approves and recommends to the synods:

(a) the Program and Budgets Builder (Our Christian Enlistment materials) as basic material for program building in the local congregation;

(b) the Allied Enlistment as a regional training program for Our Christian Enlistment in 1959;

(c) closer relations between synodical Committees on Stewardship, Evangelism and United Promotion.

7. The General Council adopts the proposal of the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ that October of each year be observed as Ecumenical Month.

8. The General Council requests Dr. Erwin R. Koch to continue as a member of the Executive Committee of the United Church Herald if he is willing and able to serve.

9. The General Council endorses the Teaching-Reaching-Preaching Mission of the Commission on Evangelism and commends it to the Church.

10. The General Council requests Dr. Ehlman to make a brief statement relative to the situation at Gass Memorial Center in India and, if possible, the reason for the refusal of a visa to a nurse.

11. (a) The General Council requests the executives of all boards and agencies of the Church to have fifty copies of their respective one-page reports in the hands of the Secretary of the Church fifteen days before the meeting of the General Council.

(b) The General Council requests that all such reports be signed by the executive secretaries or other responsible representatives of the boards and agencies.

12. The General Council thanks the boards and agencies of the Church for their very concise and helpful reports setting forth the progress of the work in their respective areas of responsibility.

13. The General Council thanks the Director and staff of the Department of United Promotion for their excellent reports and expresses its appreciation of the splendid work of the Department since the February meeting of the Council.

14. The Committee on Correlation and Promotion reports to the General Council that it has examined the proposal of the Commission on Benevolent Institutions that the office of Executive Secretary of the Commission be created, and has discussed this proposal with representatives of the Commission. The Committee on Correlation and Promotion requests the General Council to refer this proposal to the Administrative Committee for study and to instruct the Special Committee to secure further information before the Administrative Committee meets on November 24-25. It would be helpful if this additional information were to be received by the Secretary of the Church no later than November 19.

15. (a) The General Council requests Rev. Paul E. Strauch to secure all possible information concerning the Foundations established by the United Lutheran Church, the United Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., and the Presbyterian Church in the U. S.

(b) The General Council requests the Administrative Committee to appoint a committee to receive this information for study and report to the General Council.

16. The General Council directs that the responsibility for the Weekly Envelope Messages be transferred from the Department of United Promotion to the Commission on Stewardship, beginning January 1, 1961.

17. The General Council appoints a special committee consisting of the Director and Assistant Director of the Department of United Promotion and four synod presidents, including the Presidents of Midwest and Central Pennsylvania Synods, to study the proposals for reorganization of synodical committees.

(b) The General Council directs this special committee to report to the Committee on Constitutional Matters at an early date regarding possible By-Law changes, and to report to the Committee on Correlation and Promotion in February.

18. The General Council authorizes all boards, agencies and general offices of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to offer to their lay employees the opportunity to enroll under the Retirement Fund for Lay Workers of the Congregational Christian Churches on the basis of 3% by the employee and 8% by the employer, effective as soon after February 1, 1959, as possible, and without provision for any prior service payments.

19. The General Council refers the request of Pacific Northwest Synod for reconsideration of its per capita apportionment to the Department of United Promotion for consultation with the President of Pacific Northwest Synod and other synod presidents in order that the apportionment figure may be adjusted for 1959.

20. The General Council approves for the consideration of the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ the theme "The United Church - Growing in Witness and Mission" as the emphasis for 1960-1961.

21. The General Council endorses the purpose of the program proposed by the National Youth Council for deepening the young people's knowledge of their denominational heritage, and requests the President of the Church to bring it to the attention of the Synod Presidents' Conference this fall. The General Council expresses the belief that a one-day observance is not adequate to achieve this purpose.

22. The Committee on Correlation and Promotion has received a communication from the World Alliance of Reformed and Presbyterian Churches, over the signature of James E. Andrews, concerning the celebration of the Reformed and Presbyterian Jubilee, 1959-1960. The Committee requests that this matter be referred to the Administrative Committee for consideration and possible action.

23. (a) The General Council requests the Administrative Committee to appoint a committee composed of members of the Committee on Finance and Budget, the Committee on Correlation and Promotion, the Board of Investments and the Board of Pensions and Relief to deal with overtures 1-6 and report to the General Council in February.

(b) The General Council refers overtures 7 and 8 to the Board of National Missions for study and report to the General Council in February.

(c) The General Council refers overture 9 to a special committee composed of two representatives of the Board of National Missions, two representatives of the Committee on Finance and Budget, and two synod presidents; this special committee to be appointed by the President of the Church.

24. The General Council requests Dr. Deitz to make a statement at this meeting in regard to the practice of the Board of National Missions as to contracts entered into for the reimbursement of grants or subsidies in the event the recipient withdraws from the denomination. (Overture 11)

25. The General Council refers overture 18 to the Administrative Committee for further consideration.

Dr. Deitz made the statement requested of him in item 24. The General Council

VOTED: 58-9-GC-12 to request the General Secretary of the Board of National Missions to prepare a memorandum setting forth the present procedure which is used in safeguarding the investment of the Church in new missions and to send it to the President of the Church for transmission to Northwest Ohio Synod and to all synod presidents.

CHANGE IN THE PROGRAM FOR THE FALL MEETINGS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

By common consent the General Council approved a suggestion that hereafter the first evening of its fall meeting be set aside for fellowship with the Evangelical and Reformed people of the community and that the second evening be used for business sessions of the Council or its committees.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE REPORTS OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY-III

As a substitute for item 18 of the report of the Committee on the Reports of the President and the Secretary, Dr. Dearborn read the statement to which reference is made on page 9 of these minutes. The remainder of the morning session was devoted to a discussion of this document and the problems to which it was addressed.

RECESS

A recess was taken from 11:30 a.m. until 1:35 p.m.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE REPORTS OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE SECRETARY-IV

At the beginning of the afternoon session Dr. Dearborn distributed copies of the proposed substitute for item 18, stating that as mimeographed it contained an additional paragraph.

The proposed substitute for item 18 stated:

> The General Council has before it overtures or other official information indicating proposed appeals for funds to synods and congregations for the Upper Sandusky Home for the Aged, $600,000; for the Ohio Camp, $275,000; and for Heidelberg College in an unspecified amount which, however, would presumably range from $300,000 upward.
>
> The Ohio Camp proposal is clearly an issue internal to the four Ohio Synods.
>
> The Upper Sandusky Home proposal is approved by the Commission on Benevolent Institutions.
>
> The Heidelberg College proposal is predicated upon a petition of the Commission on Higher Education, addressed to the General Synod as well as the General Council, which seeks "to open the way for the institutions to approach for capital funds the synods and congregations in the areas which are historically and geographically associated with the educational institutions, providing that prior approval of the General Council and the synods concerned be secured, and that, further, there be adequate safeguards of the dignity and self-respect of congregations which cannot respond."
>
> The General Council certainly recognizes the exceeding and vital worth of each of these institutions in its own area of the total Christian enterprise, but the General Council is reluctant to approve without qualification some of these appeals for such reasons as the following:

1. In their potential total of $1,000,000 or more they offer the prospect of a major burden on the resources and generosity of churches to whom they would be made.

2. In their totality they can hardly help jeopardizing support of the denominational budget from which the college this year will receive $52,206; and if the denominational budget is affected our missionary enterprise at home and abroad, and all our other educational institutions, would suffer diminished support.

3. To "open the door" to an appeal to synods and congregations for capital funds for an educational institution would reverse a policy in effect since the General Synod of 1953, and it is believed such a basic change should be submitted to the General Synod for determination, as the Commission's overture also implies.

The General Council is therefore not prepared to approve the proposals submitted to it, while at the same time it fully recognizes their claim as Christian enterprises.

Again, at the same time the General Council acknowledges a considerable measure of initiative and prerogative in the synods in determining to what special causes and to what extent their support is given, providing always the safeguarding of support for our world-wide mission through the apportionment.

Pending further action by the General Synod on the basic budgetary issues involved, the General Council encourages the institutions to submit for preliminary consideration their respective proposals to those synods to which each appeal would be made, and the General Council awaits the reactions and suggestions of the synods for further light on the problem which is the burden of our concern.

As recorded on page 9 of these minutes, the foregoing statement was not adopted. Items 4 and 5 of the Committee's report were reconsidered, a substitute for item 4 was adopted, and in place of items 5 and 18 there was adopted a two-part item which became item 5 of the report.

WORLD SERVICE

Dr. Helfferich expressed appreciation of the part which the women of the Evangelical and Reformed churches of Burlington had played in the work of the Commission on World Service through collecting clothing for distribution to the needy in East Germany and Hungary. Referring to disorders in the Near East, he stated that before the United States marines landed in Lebanon, emissaries of the Commission on World Service were there to serve the Lebanese who had to flee from their homes. He then told of funds maintained in the Bank of Switzerland in order that emergency relief might be provided to the victims of sudden disasters. This had enabled the Commission, upon learning of serious floods in West Pakistan and Korea, to cable funds for the immediate aid of the refugees. Having spoken for two minutes, Dr. Helfferich concluded by stating that in that interval 684 people in distressed areas of the world had died of starvation.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Dr. Sheeder spoke of the sixth National Conference on Christian Education which had been held at Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana, August 19-22, 1958. This was the first such conference in the United Church of Christ, and was jointly planned by Christian Education leaders of our two communions. The theme of the conference was "One Lord, One Mission." The attendance was about 2600 Evangelical and Reformed and 400 Congregational Christian. Of the total number, 25% were ministers and 75% lay people. On the fourth night of the conference Senator Hubert Humphrey, through a telephone hook-up, spoke directly to the group. The Board of Christian Education and Publication regards this type of conference as an important part of its leadership education program and believes that it has a very real place in the life of the Church. On behalf of the Board, Dr. Sheeder thanked the General Council and the executives of other boards and agencies of the Church for their cooperation in making the sixth National Conference on Christian Education a distinct success.

INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

Dr. Ehlman was asked to report upon the measure of integration achieved by the Board of International Missions and the American Board with respect to personsel and work. In reply he stated that splendid progress has been made in the way the two groups are coming to think and work together. The members of the Board of International Missions are now bona fide members of the American Board, and members of the Executive Committee of the Board of International Missions are serving on the Prudential Committee of the American Board. Last spring five joint staff meetings were held for the purpose of studying home base and field operations procedures. Miss Margaret R. Blemker, Near East Secretary of the American Board, has become our Associate Secretary for Iraq, and Rev. Paul R. Gregory, our Associate Secretary for Japan and China, has been made responsible for the work of both Boards in the Far East.

PROGRAM FOR THE NEXT BIENNIUM

Dr. Deitz spoke of the importance of presenting to the two General Synods in 1959 a cooperative program, comparable to the present Advance Program, which will capture the imagination and enlist the support of the local churches.

Dr. Wagner replied that he had already suggested that there be a re-evaluation of the pattern of the Advance Program and that in the next biennium there be three major emphases - evangelism, life enlistment and church extension - encompassing all phases of our denominational life. Consideration must be given to the higher education emphasis of the Congregational Christian Churches and to our concern for our own educational institutions, whose problems have been studied by two special committees. The reports of the two committees, with those of other special study committees, will be discussed by the Administrative Committee at its two-day meeting in November. Thereafter it should be possible to draft a tentative program for consideration by the executives of the boards and agencies in February, so that the General Council may consider their recommendations and adopt a definite program for presentation to our General Synod.

Dr. Mackey stated that in October the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ, having asked for suggestions concerning the theme for a unified emphasis in the coming biennium, will be informed of the theme approved by this General Council and will consider it in relation to suggestions received from the Congregational Christian side of the United Church.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting of the General Council was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Dr. Wagner, in a closing address, expressed his hope that our future program, whether it be carried on singly or in cooperation with our Congregational Christian brethren, will be based upon a recognition of the Church's obligation to find and maintain a truly Christian balance between caring for the needs confronting it at home and fulfilling its responsibilities abroad.

Commenting upon the sessions of the past few days, he stated that the frank discussions and the sharing of responsibilities had been illustrative of the freedom in which the Church of Jesus Christ carries on its work.

Referring to the local committee on arrangements for this meeting of the General Council, he thanked President Press of Midwest Synod, Mr. Rasche and those associated with them for their efficiency and their warm hospitality.

The President then offered prayer, concluding with the Lord's Prayer in which all present participated, and pronounced the benediction.

James E. Wagner, Chairman

Sheldon E. Mackey, Secretary

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHURCH

September 16-18, 1958

To Members of the General Council:-

The very first words of this report are being written on Saturday afternoon, June 28, and all of what will constitute my main report to you for this session will have been written no later than August 1. This somewhat premature procedure is accounted for by the fact that I would be on vacation July 2-26, in my office only for the week of July 27, then during the month of August in Europe for meetings of the Executive Committee of the World Alliance of Reformed and Presbyterian Churches and the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches. The former is scheduled to meet in Edinburgh, Scotland, August 4-10, the latter in Nyborg-Strand, Denmark, August 21-30. Between these two meetings the President of the Church hoped to spend several days in London, Berlin and Brussels. It is altogether likely that a supplement to this report will be prepared between the time of my return from Europe and the convening of this session of the General Council.

Ecumenical Contacts

Reference to Alliance and World Council meetings recalls a series of gatherings in which we have recently been represented. The President of the Church on May 28 attended the opening service and sessions of the new United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., formed by merger of the former Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., and the United Presbyterian Church of North America. Our sister constituency in the United Church of Christ was represented at this gathering by its Moderator, Mr. George B. Hastings.

We were invited to send fraternal delegations to the biennial meeting of the General Council of Congregational Christian Churches and the Eighth Assembly of the International Congregationsl Council held, respectively, June 24-30 at Boston and July 2-10 at Hartford. At the Boston meeting our delegation included the following: Mrs. William J. Eckbold, Philadelphia; Mrs. Henry E. Hefty, Madison, Wisconsin; Miss Frances Kapitzky, Strasburg, Ohio; Mr. Harold M. Baumler, Hamburg, N.Y.; the Rev. Arpad Beretz, Wallingford, Conn.; the Rev. Harry C. Carolus, Bedford, Pa.; the Rev. Raymond F. Frankenfeld, Washington, Mo.; Mr. Louis M. Hammerschmidt, South Bend, Ind.; the Rev. Robert G. Hermann, Jefferson City, Mo.; and Mr. Mark Robb, Turtle Creek, Pa.; the President of the Church attending only as a visitor the opening two days, giving the morning devotional address of the second day. At the Hartford meeting our delegation was to include the Rev. John R. C. Haas, Mr. John W. Mueller, the Rev. Sheldon E. Mackey, the Rev. Gerhard W. Grauer, Mrs. E. Roy Corman, and Miss Frances Kapitzky, with the President of the Church visiting only the opening service and the first morning's business session. The delegates at Hartford were to be formally honored at a dinner on July 8, at which time Dr. Haas was to bring brief official greetings from the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

Welcoming New Members

We welcome at this meeting of the General Council two new members elected at our February meeting. The Rev. Thomas D. Garner, D.D., Nazareth, Pa., (East Pennsylvania Synod), and the Rev. George P. Ellerbrake, New Orleans, La., (Texas Synod), who succeed, respectively, the Rev. Roy W. Limbert, D.D., and the Rev. John L. Schmidt, D.D., for their unexpired terms. Dr. Garner will serve on the Committee on Correlation and Promotion, while the Rev. Mr. Ellerbrake will serve on the Committee on Publication.

Board of Business Management

Shortly before the meeting of the Administrative Committee on June 16 word was received of the recurring illness of the Rev. Otto Press, editor of Der Friedensbote. The Committee heard this news with deep regret and authorized the President of the Church to convey its sentiments to the Rev. Mr. Press. General Council will no doubt wish also to extend a greeting to him. This information is prefaced to certain resolutions adopted by the Board of Business Management at a meeting held about that time and transmitted by its President, the Rev. Robert C. Kienle, D.D., in a letter dated June 10. The resolutions follow:

On Der Friedensbote

"It was VOTED that in view of Rev. Press' retiring as Editor of Der Friedensbote as of December 31, 1958, the Committee recommend to the General Council, through the Board of Business Management, that Der Friedensbote be discontinued as of December 31, 1958.

"In view of Rev. Press' illness it was VOTED to recommend to the General Council, through the Board of Business Management, that the Rev. W. G. Mauch be engaged to edit Der Friedensbote for the balance of this year at a salary of $75 per issue plus necessary traveling expenses incurred in this position.

"It was VOTED to thank Dr. H. Wernecke for his offer of the possibility of continuing the spirit of the printing of Der Friedensbote by incorporating its contents with Die Abendstunde, a publication of which he is Editor, but that we inform the General Council through the Board of Business Management that we do not favor the acceptance of this offer.

"It was voted to recommend to the General Council that Rev. Otto Press' salary, rental allowance and group insurance be paid him until December 31, 1958, even though his health prevents him from carrying on his work."

On $10,000 Gift from Eden Publishing House

"Having received $10,000.00 from Eden Publishing House as a gift to the Church, the board passed the following resolution:

"Returning now to the business of the day it was voted that the Board of Business Management gratefully and thankfully receive the gift of $10,000.00 made to it by the Board of Eden Publishing House from its net earnings for the year ending February 1, 1958 and turn it over to the General Council with the recommendation by Eden that this money go to the Board of Pensions and Relief of the Church."

In Respect of Eden Publishing House

"The Board of Directors of Eden Publishing House presented a resolution through the Board of Business Management to the General Council at its February, 1958 meeting and now wishes to thank General Council for their action at that time. We now understand a plan for the United Church Herald has been developed and approved by General Council in which the composition will be done

"in New York City and we will be printing, binding, and mailing the quantity needed for the subscription list of the present Messenger office. We want to assure General Council that we will strive to perform in the most efficient manner under the plan adopted.

"In light of the difficulties and problems that arose in reaching the compromise on the printing of the United Church Herald we are now asking General Council to make a study of printing being done jointly and cooperatively by our boards, commissions and auxiliary organizations with agencies of the Congregational Christian Churches and other denominations and organizations. We call attention to the fact that General Synod of 1953 adopted and in 1956 reaffirmed the following resolutions:

> "The General Synod directs that Eden Publishing House, now the sole printing establishment of the church, shall handle all the printing which its presses will permit and its prices favor. At the end of three years the situation shall be restudied with a view to determining whether this arrangement has functioned efficiently and economically.
> "(Recommendation 25, Page 389, Acts and Proceedings of General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, June, 1953.)
>
> "That the General Synod recommend that the 1953 General Synod directive to the boards and agencies be continued for the next triennium with even greater encouragement for them to use the facilities of Eden Publishing House, our sole printing establishment.
> "(Report of the Committee to Study the Printing Requirements of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, Page 142, #2, Acts and Proceedings of General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, August, 1956.)
>
> "We also call attention to the reports of the Committee on Publication (Page 99) and the Committee to Study Printing Requirements (Page 141) given at the 1956 General Synod.

"We present these considerations to you in the hope of being given appropriate assurance of having every possible opportunity to obtain sufficient business to keep our men and equipment operating full-time. In this way we can assure the church that we can show savings in the cost of printing.

"The foregoing resolution was unanimously adopted by the Board of Directors of Eden Publishing House at their regular meeting on May 14, 1958."

Higher Education Overture on Capital Funds

The Commission on Higher Education held a special meeting at the Hotel Sherman, Chicago, during the April 21-24 Consultation on Higher Education in the United Church of Christ. One action represents the Commission's endorsement of the specific request of Heidelberg College, but this action must be understood as based upon the first and longer action here transmitted, an action which the request of Heidelberg College precipitated.

In order that General Council may have the fullest possible picture several things should be reported. First, there was significant division of opinion within the Commission as to the wisdom of this action, and several of

the college presidents present voted against it. Second, one president has since written as follows: "I still could weep that the Commission on Higher Education voted to approve the recommendation with respect to Heidelberg and their appeal to the congregations in Ohio for capital funds. If there is any possibility that General Council will approve this at their next meeting I see that I have no choice but to recommend to my Trustees that we ask their approval also for our capital fund effort beginning November 1."

It would be well to recall that the General Synod of 1953 included in the budget for the new triennium a Supplementary Higher Education Fund in the amount of $275,000. At its next meeting following that General Synod, the Commission on Higher Education, dealing with a request from Mission House, recorded the following judgment:

> ".....It is the Commission's opinion that capital and operating funds may be sought by Mission House without any official approval by the Commission so long as approaches are made only to individuals and corporations and NOT to Synods or congregations. To do the latter in the course of the present triennium, the Commission believes, would be breaking faith with General Synod, which at its last meeting appropriated an additional sum of $275,000 annually for the educational institutions of our Church in lieu of any other Church campaign for higher education within the period of the current triennium."

The General Council at its February, 1954, meeting adopted this judgment as part of the report submitted by Dr. Haas in behalf of the Study Commission on Mission House College and Seminary.

During the years there has been improvement in the measure of the Church's support for its educational institutions. In the 1948-50 triennium, the annual allocation was $294,000; 1951-53, regular allocation of $324,790 plus Educational Emergency item of $52,260; 1954-56, regular allocation of $324,790 plus Supplementary Higher Education Fund of $275,000; and for the present triennium a single budget item of $640,023 annually.

The problems called to mind by the following resolutions from the Commission on Higher Education are complicated by other phases of denominational life. Substantial financial campaigns have been made or are now contemplated by many benevolent institutions, coming before this session of General Council being one request for approval of a campaign for $600,000. The expansion of synodical programs, one synod having now approved the securing of a second full-time staff assistant to its president, require the annual raising of greatly increased amounts within the synods over and above the Kingdom Service Apportionment and World Service. To mention these as illustrations is in no way to question their merits, any more than to include them in reference to the problem of our higher educational institutions is to reflect any lack of sympathy for the latter and interest in their future. But it is with all these considerations in mind, and doubtless others, that General Council will have to deal with these resolutions.

> "Since all of our church-related colleges are in need of additional endowment to assure increased operating income, especially for the the purpose of undergirding the quality of instruction;
>
> "Since all of our colleges are desperately in need of capital funds

"to erect buildings sufficient for the increase in the number of students they will be called upon to enroll in the coming decade;

"Since our colleges must normally rely upon the congregations of the Evangelical and Reformed Church as one of their normal constituent areas for securing capital funds;

"Since wholehearted support from the congregations, demonstrating clearly that the people of our Church believe in their colleges and accept responsibility for them, will strengthen the colleges in their efforts to secure funds from sources outside the Church;

"Since any effort toward securing these capital funds from congregations of the Evangelical and Reformed Church during the last six years has been closed by action of the General Council for reasons which we fully appreciate and endorse;

"Be it resolved that the Commission on Higher Education, acting for the educational institutions of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, petitions the General Council and the General Synod to open the way for the institutions to approach for capital funds the synods and congregations in the areas which are historically and geographically associated with the educational institutions, providing that prior approval of the General Council and the synods concerned be secured, and that, further, there be adequate safeguards of the dignity and self respect of congregations which cannot respond."

"The following motion was passed: That the Commission on Higher Education approve the application of Heidelberg College to raise capital funds from congregations in Southeast Ohio Synod, Northeast Ohio Synod, Northwest Ohio Synod, Southwest Ohio Synod, and Michigan-Indiana Synod, at such time as General Council shall approve such application."

Special Study Committee Reports

Among appendices to this report will be found the reports of several of the special Study Committees which have been at work during this triennium. It may be well to recall that five such committees have been under appointment since early in the triennium. They include:- Committee to Study Facilities and Programs of the Theological Seminaries, Committee to Study the Church's Responsibility in the Care of the Mentally Ill and Mentally Retarded, Committee to Study the Future of the Deaconess Order, Committee to Study the Relationship of Our Hospitals to the Church, and the Committee on Formula for Allocation of Funds to Institutions of Higher Education. The first three were authorized by the General Synod of 1956, the latter two by General Council in October and February, 1956, respectively.

More recently, two additional Study Committees were appointed by General Council:- Committee to Study Possible Need of Full-time Executive by the Commission on Benevolent Institutions, and Committee to Study the Rocky Mountain and Dakota Synods.

Dr. Distler, who served as chairman of the Committee on Formula for Allocation of Funds to Institutions of Higher Education, was formerly President

of Franklin and Marshall College and is now Executive Director of the Association of American Colleges. We were especially fortunate in having his leadership in our Committee's work, and his present position makes all the more significant the following paragraph in the personal letter covering transmission of the Committee's report:

"There is just one thing that I should call to your special attention, and through you to the Council. The committee was very much concerned about the level of faculty salaries at our several institutions and would have recommended a much higher figure in the formula, but when we got to totalling the figures we felt that it would have been unreasonable to make any higher recommendations at this time. We are hopeful that at some future date this factor in the formula can be raised without the necessity of decreasing the other parts of the formula. Meanwhile we think its inclusion, even though for a comparatively small sum, will make clear the interest of the Church in this very important area."

The Committee to Study the Facilities and Programs of the Theological Seminaries submitted its report at our February meeting, and this report was referred to the Administrative Committee for further consideration. It is recommended that the reports of all the other Study Committees be similarly referred, in the hope that a 2-day meeting of the Administrative Committee may be held later this fall and devoted mainly to these reports, with definite recommendations as to procedure and implementation to be presented to the February, 1959 meeting of General Council.

With regard to the service we have had from members of these various Study Committees General Council will doubtless want to adopt a resolution of appreciation and gratitude, which resolution can then be conveyed to each person.

Clarifying Practices in Ordination and Commissioning

While our Constitution and By-Laws pretty well lay the foundations for both "ordination" and "commissioning" as these rites are conceived and administered among us, variations and sometimes apparent irregularities in practice come to my attention from time to time. I can best indicate what I mean by several illustrations.

A little over a year ago a student who had been under the care of and licensed by Northeast Ohio Synod was ordained in a church in Belleville, Illinois, which is within the bounds of South Illinois Synod. My first information as to the details of the ordination was received only when my copy of the Report of Ordination came. I discovered not only that the ordination had taken place in another Synod than the young man's home Synod without his having been transferred from the one to the other as an approved Candidate for Ordination, but that the ordaining committee was evidently made up of the President of Northeast Ohio Synod, a pastor of the South Illinois Synod, and a theological seminary professor who is a member of the Missouri Valley Synod. The President of the Northeast Ohio Synod had, however, secured the permission of the President of the South Illinois Synod to perform the ordination function within the bounds of that Synod. My chief concern in this instance was, however, that the ordination was not in charge of a committee of the Synod within whose bounds the ordination took place.

A problem of slightly different character is reflected in two communications which came to my desk in the same morning's mail. In the one

letter, from a Synod President, came a document involved in the commissioning of a young woman as a Commissioned Worker in the usual sense of that term. This young woman has a bachelor's degree with a major in Christian Education, but no further academic preparation. There have been, as I recall, several other instances of this kind in the past, and on that account as well as in view of the fact that arrangements for this young woman's commissioning had gone so far and the commissioning was to take place on June 15, I had no inclination to hold up procedure at the last moment. The other letter was a copy of a letter addressed to a young woman by the chairman of the Committee on Church and Ministry of another Synod. In part that letter reads as follows:

> "According to the Constitution we can commission a Director of Religious Education but it states that they must have preferably, one (1) year of advance work. _____ Synod has therefore set as its policy only to recommend for commissioning those who have completed one (1) year of advance study in the field of Christian Education (see By-Law 40).
>
> "We believe that such a service is a fine recognition and the setting aside of full time christian workers. If at such time you have completed your year of advance work beyond your degree from _____ College we will be happy to discuss with you plans for being commissioned.
>
> "We congratulate you upon being graduated from _____ College and on being called to the full-time service of _____ Church. We wish you God's blessings as you serve this church."

A third example of a similar type of problem occurred several times in the first year or two of my presidency when the Board of International Missions took the initiative in arranging a "commissioning" service for certain individuals who were going to the mission field, and Synod Presidents in these instances raised a question on the very understandable ground that commissioning was a function primarily of the Synod. I want to make it clear that the Board in these several instances was acting with the best possible motives, in part was simply continuing a procedure which it had inherited in one form or another from the foreign mission boards of the two churches before the union of 1934, and was quite willing and ready to modify its procedure in due recognition of the Synod's primary responsibility.

On the matter of "commissioning" in the case of individuals preparing to be directors of Christian education, I asked counsel of the heads of our seminaries. By-Law 40 states that "A Commissioned Worker shall have adequate training" and goes on to say, "normally this shall consist of at least one year of formal training beyond the college degree". In answer to my inquiry as to how rigidly we should press for this prerequisite, Dr. Frederick W. Schroeder wrote as follows:

> "I want to say first of all that in principle I subscribe to the By-Law you quote. As a matter of fact I helped to draft it many long years ago when Dr. Goebel first appointed a committee to concern itself with Life Enlistment. I remember very distinctly that all the members of the committee very definitely felt one year of graduate study should be regarded to be the norm, but we were also aware that because of the need and pressure to secure young women it would be necessary to

"recognize those who majored in R.E. in college as qualified for commissioning. Therefore it would seem to me that in the light of the actual situation the By-Law should not be interpreted too rigidly. If we were to do so I believe we would be driving the all-too-few girls who are interested in full-time church work into other denominations with less rigid standards."

Dr. Robert V. Moss, Jr., in his letter reported that the matter had been discussed at the Inter-Seminary Faculty Conference at Lakeland College on August 28, 1957. In the course of discussions there three categories of professional worker were envisaged: the director of religious education who has the M.R.E.; the assistant in religious education who has the A.B. in Christian Education; and the combination worker. Dr. Moss went on to comment as follows:

"From the minutes of this meeting I gather that it was the feeling of those present that the differentiation among these jobs lies not so much in the areas of responsibility but in the degrees of initiative to be taken. Thus the director of Christian education would be expected to exercise almost total initiative in the church school program of a local church. It was felt by the group that the director of Christian Education should be reserved for a worker with the M.R.E. degree and that the educational assistant might be the title for the worker who has an A.B. in Christian education.

"My personal feeling is that we should protect the standards and insist that commissioning be reserved for the worker who has done work beyond the bachelor's degree and for the person who has the bachelor's degree and has spent a specific number of years, possibly five, in the field of Christian education. It might be desirable to require a reading course and examination of the person who has not had formal training beyond the A.B. Certainly the Seminaries would be willing to cooperate and provide reading courses, but I should think that examination on fitness for commissioning by the Committee on Church and Ministry of the local Synod."

With regard to the "reading course" to which Dr. Moss refers, I had written in my letter to these seminary executives as follows: "Is it possible that we could introduce an alternative for those persons whose personal or domestic circumstances, or any other worthy consideration,make it impracticable to proceed from college graduation to the securing of this minimum of at least one year additional? I have in mind, for example, a required reading course with appropriate written report on each unit of it, at the completion of which the person would be given a certificate of appropriate nature which would, however, clearly be distinct from anything such as the usual diploma for residence study. Moreover, in raising this question, I want to make it clear that any such alternative ought to be projected in such a way as not to encourage widespread resort to this 'second best' qualification under the terms of the By-Law."

I should add that on this proposal Dr. Schroeder had written: "Whether your second proposal, which commends itself as a second-best alternative, would encourage girls to be satisfied with the second-best is hard to tell. It would seem to me that it might in the long run defeat the principle of By-Law 40. My present judgment leads me to say that it might be the better part of wisdom not to spell out an alternate course of procedure."

All of this I lay before you by way of background to several suggestions I venture to make with regard to a clarification of policy which General Council might well offer. They are as follows:

1. Ordination and commissioning are both functions of the Synod.

2. Each rite should be administered by the Synod within whose bounds the administration takes place.

3. The Synod's administration of either rite should be conducted by a committee of the Synod, not by the Synod President alone. This provision would seem to be in keeping with the practice which obtains generally and which obtained in the two communions prior to their union in 1934. Moreover, it would seem to be in keeping with non-episcopal Protestant practice, and preclude any Synod President's being judged, even facetiously, as arrogating to himself an episcopal function which inheres in the Synod. A committee would certainly by definition consist of at least two members. Three might be an even more acceptable minimum. Further, if a layman such as the lay member of Synodical Council could be named as a member of the committee, the inclusion of a lay member as well as ministerial members would seem to be in keeping with evangelical Protestant tradition. The lay member might serve at least to sit with the candidate for ordination or commissioning and at the appropriate moment formally present him to the presiding member of the committee for administration of the rite.

4. Particularly now that 25 of our 33 Synods have full-time Presidents, it is easier, and certainly most appropriate, that the Synod President himself should be a member of each ordaining or commissioning committee, and most likely the chairman of it and thus the presiding minister. So far as practicable in the case of the part-time Presidents, the same pattern of participation would seem to be desirable and appropriate.

5. The insistence that the ordaining or commissioning should be done by a committee of the Synod does not at all preclude the participation of others in the rite, whether they be of another Synod in our own Church or some one from a sister communion. This participation might and frequently does include either the offering of prayers, the reading of Scriptures or other appropriate parts of the service, the preaching of the sermon, as well as the invitation commonly extended to participate in the laying on of hands.

6. Where a commissioning is to take place for a special form of full-time ministry such as on the foreign mission field or in the Christian education program of a local church, the participation of the appropriate Board of the denomination or committee of the Synod will certainly be sought, and their special concerns and interests consulted in the planning of the service. But the initiative and the primary responsibility rest with the Synod and its committee officially appointed for the event.

7. With regard to the commissioning of these who are to be full-time workers in Christian education, the following considerations would seem to be appropriate:

a. Because of the importance of the work and the great desirability

of the most adequate preparation possible for it, every effort should be made to maintain the standard now presupposed in By-Law 40, namely, that of "at least one year of formal training beyond the college degree".

b. At the same time, recognizing the merits of a 4-year college course with a major in Christian education, and the common variation in native endowments and adaptability as between individuals, synodical Committees on Church and Ministry should not feel themselves held absolutely to the minimum of "at least one year of formal training beyond the college degree".

c. It might be well to refer to the Commission on Church and Ministry to study, in consultation with appropriate members of our seminary faculties, the advisability of some form of supplementary, guided reading course for those who have had only the 4-year college course; and a report on this study might well include a specific suggestion as to the content and conduct of such a reading course.

It seems to me that if General Council were to adopt some such statement of policy as is delineated in the above seven sections it would serve to encourage the same practices in all our Synods and to strengthen the hand of synodical Committees on Church and Ministry in their efforts to maintain the highest possible standards of training for full-time church-related service.

A Problem As to Ordination

Now and then a problem comes to the President's desk when a decision must be made without waiting for counsel with the Administrative Committee or the General Council, but when he must act on the basis of Constitution, By-Laws and/or other suggestive precedent or advice from informed individuals who can be consulted.

One such instance arose when on July 28 a letter was received from a Synod President asking, on the basis of By-Law 28-b, the President's approval of an ordination scheduled for August 17. I report the incident here not only to illustrate the point of the preceding paragraph but also because something of fundamental policy was involved. The candidate had been under the care of the Synod, received aid throughout his college years, but "because he decided to take his seminary training in an unaccredited seminary" (also being of the 'fundamentalist' type) "our Committee on Church and Ministry declined to approve (further) loans to him." His relation to the Synod during seminary years was apparently a more or less tenuous one. Other aspects of the problem involved will be reflected in my letter of reply, in which also a matter of policy is implicit which I hope General Council will be disposed to endorse.

Here is the pertinent part of the text of my letter:

"Ordinarily, By-Law 28-b would not necessarily apply in a case like this if it were not for certain special circumstances which are involved. These circumstances include: (1) the fact that this young man has been attending an unaccredited seminary; (2) the fact that he has accepted assignment under the Central American Mission for service with them in Guatemala.

"It is this latter consideration which gave me considerable pause. Not wishing to act without securing counsel from those who are more fully acquainted with our missions overseas including Latin America, I have consulted with the two members of our mission staff who are most fully acquainted with the work and the missionary situation in Central and South America.

"On the basis of my conference with these two staff people as well as certain other responsible leaders in the Church, I regret that I feel compelled to write that I cannot approve this ordination, and I believe this decision will be endorsed by the General Council if it is necessary for me to present the matter to them. This decision is based mainly on the following considerations:

"1. In view of our own crying need for missionary personnel on all of the seven fields in which we are now at work, to say nothing of requests for personnel from certain other fields with which we are in close cooperation, it would be difficult to justify to the Church at large our provision of missionary personnel for work with an agency as remote from the life and traditions of the Evangelical and Reformed Church as is the Central American Mission.

"2. It seems clear that to have a man who has his ordination from and his ministerial standing in the Evangelical and Reformed Church serving in one of the Latin American fields under the Central American Mission would create problems for us with respect to our work in the two Latin American fields in which we have missions, one of them in Honduras which is next-door-neighbor to Guatemala.

"3. The problems which could be anticipated and to which I have referred in the previous paragraph hinge on the fact that the Central American Mission represents a tradition completely different from the traditions and conception of the Gospel characteristic of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. According to our understanding of the Central American Mission, it is 'fundamentalist' in a sense which is not characteristic of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. While I point this out I want to emphasize that in doing so I am saying nothing by way of reproach to the Central American Mission but simply describing a fact which I do not believe can be ignored.

"I regret to feel under the compulsion to write in this way. I am sending a copy of this letter to the father of young Mr. ____, feeling that since the father is an honored minister of our Church in good and regular standing he ought to know just why the decision is expressed as it is. I want to assure you and your colleagues in the Synod as well as Pastor ____ and his son that this decision most assuredly in no way reflects any question as to the character and devotion of the young man himself. If he chooses to serve in a mission staff other than our own, we shall follow him with nothing other than our prayers that he may be wondrously used of God for the spread of the Gospel and the establishment of the Kingdom of our

"Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Since this decision will require him to seek ordination elsewhere, I am sure that your Synodical Council will feel fully justified in recommending this young man to the care and fellowship of whatever ecclesiastical body he unites with for the purpose of securing ordination."

Proposed Combinations of Synodical Committees

Members of General Council will recall that at our February 1957 meeting we had before us the plan for the merger of the Nebraska and Iowa Synods into the Midwest Synod. In that plan was contemplated the combination of the functions of two or more synodical committees specified in the By-Laws into the responsibility for functioning of one committee. At that time the General Council called the attention of the Boards and Commissions as well as the Synod to the difference between the proposed committee organization and that outlined in By-Laws 67 to 77, and went on to say: "The General Council believes it may be well to experiment with such coordinated and correlated committees so long as the required numbers of members are observed and requests that a report of the experiment of Midwest Synod be made in the fall of 1958." In his characteristic careful manner the President of Midwest Synod has now made a report on this matter. It will be found as an appendix to this report of the President of the Church.

Meanwhile, a communication was received under date of April 21, 1958 from the President of Central Pennsylvania Synod as follows:

"The Synodical Council of Central Pennsylvania Synod along with other members of Synod feel that Synod is overloaded with Committees, a number of which so overlap that they could be combined in a number of instances. However, before letting the matter come before Synod we desire your word of advice as to whether we would be violating the Constitution or other accepted procedures of workings of our Church by such merging of Elected Committees.

"Our suggestions would be that where these committees overlap their combination be such that they be part of a larger committee, for example: we suggest the following:

"1. Church and Ministry Committee
Pension and Relief

"2. United Promotion Committee
Stewardship
Church World Service
Heifer Project

"3. Christian Education

"4. Evangelism

"5. Christian Social Action

"6. National Missions
Town and Country
Urban Strategy

"7. International Missions

"8. Finance

"9. Historical

"10. Camp Board"

Since my reaction to this proposal from Central Pennsylvania Synod was desired prior to the spring meeting of the Synod itself I could only write as follows: "My suggestion is that for the year 1958-59 you establish the committees in regular form and that will give us time to consider this matter further at the fall meeting of General Council. I hope you will not attempt to initiate this combination of committees at your meeting next week since it will simply put Central Pennsylvania Synod in the position of doing something in violation of the By-Laws at the very time when the General Council would be trying to address itself to the problem toward a solution of which General Council is certainly concerned."

The reasons which underlie such proposals as these for combinations of synodical committees are fairly obvious. One of them is the problem of the long distances involved which committee members have to travel. Sometimes closely related to this but not always so is the difficulty in the smaller Synods of appointing the required committees without considerable duplication in the persons who are called to serve on them. Without doubt another factor is the feeling that certain causes are so closely related, for example, Stewardship, Church World Service, and Heifer Project with United Promotion, that there is understandable inclination to combine them in one comprehensive committee in each such instance. It would seem that if General Council is receptive to the possible combination of committees where distance, numbers, and relationship of responsibilities tend to favor it, this proposal might be referred to the Cabinet on Correlation and Promotion for study and recommendation to the General Council and its Committee on Constitutional Matters.

Foundation for Gifts and Bequests

In my report to General Council in October 1956 I presented a rather detailed proposal, submitted by one of our retired pastors, the Rev. Dr. Alvin F. Deitz, for the establishment of a Benevolent Institution Foundation which would encourage gifts, bequests, annuities, etc., for the accumulation of principal funds from which principal or interest thereon grants would be made to benevolent institutions of the Church as resources and need would permit. I referred this matter at the time to the Commission on Benevolent Institutions for consideration and they took action recommending that General Council "appoint a committee to explore this idea further". The General Council at that October 1956 meeting took action referring the matter of the benevolent institution foundation back to the Commission on Benevolent Institutions for further study. Under date of May 24 a letter from the President of the Commission on Benevolent Institutions, Mr. Victor B. Hauck, reports as follows:

"This matter was considered at both the 1956 and 1957 meetings of The Commission without action being taken. During 1957 the matter was referred to the Board of Investments. At the Feb. 1958 Commission on Benevolent Institutions meeting the advice of the Board of Investments was considered. That Board expressed some

"doubt that Rev. Dietz's plan was workable but suggested one limited to large annuity gifts might be. Still lacking in a firm opinion CBI returned the matter to its Executive Committee who voted to return the matter to General Council without recommendation.

"The lack of recommendation comes not from opposition but from lack of knowledge of the practicability of a foundation set up on this basis. The matter really needs careful study by experts."

Meanwhile, the Commission on Stewardship, because of a growing interest and concern on its part as well as on the part of like agencies in other denominations, has been giving some thought to the desirability of such a Foundation for which there is significant precedent in such major denominations as the United Presbyterian Church in the USA and the United Lutheran Church in America. I have asked Secretary Strauch to prepare a memorandum on this matter for consideration by the Committee on Correlation and Promotion which may bring in an appropriate recommendation, and asked also that sufficient copies of this memorandum be made available for members of General Council. It will be found as an appendix to this report.

National Council Faith and Order Project

One of the recommendations of the 1957 Oberlin Conference on "The Nature of the Unity We Seek" was that the National Council of Churches in cooperation with the U.S. Conference of the World Council of Churches should sponsor a continuing provision by which to encourage on the part of the American Churches their study of faith and order matters as part of the ecumenical conversations going on constantly between the Churches throughout the world. To implement this recommendation the Joint Committee on Relationships between the two organizations, with Dr. Franklin Clark Fry serving as chairman, has drafted a plan calling for a joint program to be guided by a devout and competent scholar who would be chosen in due time and who would work under the joint guidance of Dr. Roswell P. Barnes and Miss Leila Anderson and an advisory committee of scholars, the whole project to be administratively responsible to the General Secretary of the National Council. The proposal has had the general approval of the U.S. Conference of the World Council of Churches at its annual meeting in April and the National Council at the meeting of its General Board in June.

For understandable reasons it was hoped to get this project launched without undue delay and the joint committee has proposed the date of October 1 for its official beginning. On this account Dr. Fry resorted to the procedure of appealing to myself and, as he put it, "the executives of nine others of the stronger denominations of the Council, to lay the matter before you and seek your guidance". He went on to explain that the joint committee estimates that this project will require a budget of $25,000 a year for each of three years, and if it is to be initiated on October 1, 1958, would require support to the extent of $7,000 for the latter part of this year. His communication continued as follows:

"May I show the temerity to suggest specific amounts to you and the other persons to whom I am writing. I do so in the conviction that the program will have to be financed primarily by eight or ten of the denominations who have a special interest in such a project. I, frankly, do not see how it can be financed unless we can be assured

"of appropriations ranging from $1,000 to $7,500 from these churches. As I see it, this would mean an appropriation for each of three years of approximately twelve to fifteen hundred dollars from the Evangelical and Reformed Church, including some appropriation toward a $7,000 budget for the fiscal year 1958."

I wrote to Dr. Fry on May 8 pointing out that I was in no position to make any commitment on our part but that I expected to have an opportunity on May 9 in Portland, Oregon to discuss this matter with Dr. Mueller, chairman of our Committee on Finance and Budget, and on June 16 to lay the matter before our Administrative Committee for consideration. After my conference with Dr. Mueller I reported that he and I were of one mind in being prepared to recommend to our General Council that we support this project to the following extent: $600 for the remainder of 1958; and $1300 annually for 1959, 1960, and 1961. I reported all this to the Administrative Committee on June 16 and, while we took no formal action on a matter which we felt only General Council should act upon, I believe I am reporting accurately when I say that there was unanimous endorsement of the proposal which Dr. Mueller and I had agreed to make. I lay it before you now with a conviction which is quite adequately expressed by the first reaction voiced by Dr. Mueller when I first mentioned this to him. He said, "Committed as we are to the ecumenical movement, we cannot afford not to support this". In the meantime promises of support from other denominations have come in sufficient to assure that, with our support joined to theirs, there will be an adequate underwriting of this budget from October 1 through the following three years.

Visit to Chicago Missions

Early in the year I found that my schedule would take me June 3-6 to Minneapolis and that I was scheduled to preach on Sunday, June 8, at Jackson, Wisconsin. Since a return to Philadelphia between these appointments was obviously not indicated, I wrote to the President of North Illinois Synod saying that if it was convenient with him and he were willing to do so, I would like to spend Saturday, June 7, visiting the new mission churches established in the Chicago area and learning something about additional allocations which had been offered to the Evangelical and Reformed Church under the comity plan operating in that metropolitan area. Dr. Rest kindly agreed to this proposal. The result was that not only did I spend a good full day on Saturday doing what I had hoped to do, but through Dr. Rest's thoughtfulness, I was given an hour-and-a-half presentation in the Office of Research and Survey of the Chicago Federation of Churches illustrating the careful way in which expanding suburban communities are studied and allocations offered to the cooperating Churches. Some remarkably promising National Missions churches have been organized in that area or are in process of organization, and careful attention is being given to additional allocations assigned to the Evangelical and Reformed Church with a view to exploiting them as rapidly as available resources will permit. It should be noted that North Illinois Synod is in especially fortunate situation in having the Rev. Hugo Leinberger as a full-time staff assistant to its President, with Mr. Leinberger giving major attention to home mission expansion.

Several things commend themselves to my own thinking as a result of this Chicago visit. First of all, what is being done there underscores a conviction which I think all of us share, namely that no matter how active our Board is and how readily available its resources, a great deal depends upon the

initiative and sense of mission responsibility exercised by the established churches in the community and by the Synod itself. On the latter, North Illinois is certainly an outstanding example. Experience which they have had there and advice which has come to them from responsible financial circles make me feel that our board should give serious study to the question as to whether it might not wisely adopt a more flexible policy with regard to loans, so that the first mortgage on a property might in chosen instances be available to a bank which could then lend a larger amount than it could if the first mortgage is held by the Board. I offer this as in no sense a final judgment, but only to affirm my belief that this possibility deserves study. There are other methods characteristic of the work being done in the Chicago area which also commend themselves to my own thinking. I venture to express the hope that our Board might find it desirable to invite the North Illinois synodical Committee on National Missions to sit with it for an hour at one of the Board's regular meetings, in order that the Board might have the benefit of the experience and insights which the North Illinois committee has gained; indeed, it is possible that the Board might profit by similar consultations with other synodical committees and even other local groups such as Missions, Incorporated, in the Cincinnati area. I might add, just to make sure that nothing I have here written is misunderstood, that the North Illinois Synod committee has worked in consultation with our Board, but has found it desirable at some points to adjust its practice in that area somewhat differently from what is the established and more or less rigid policy of our Board.

New Synod Presidents

Twenty-five of our Synods have now established the office of the President on a full-time basis. Most recent to do so were the South Illinois Synod which elected our former colleague in this General Council, the Rev. John L. Schmidt, D.D., as its first full-time President; and the North Wisconsin Synod which has elected the Rev. John Scheib, his service in this office scheduled to begin on September 1. Seven Synods with Presidents serving on a part-time basis have had changes in the incumbents within the past year and a half. They are as follows: California Synod, the Rev. Rudolph S. Allrich succeeding the Rev. John W. Flucke, D.D.; Dakota Synod, the Rev. Erich Kaempchen succeeding the Rev. Carl Fried; New York Synod, the Rev. Benedict M. Tannler succeeding the Rev. Henry A. Weier; Northwest Ohio Synod, the Rev. Paul E. Rohrbaugh succeeding the Rev. Harvey J. Zuern; Pacific Northwest Synod, the Rev. Harvey T. Goodling succeeding the Rev. August H. Elshoff; Rocky Mountain Synod, the Rev. A. C. Kroehler succeeding the Rev. Max Schoenhaar, Th.D.; and Susquehanna Synod, the Rev. Wayne A. Lutz succeeding the Rev. Clarence T. Moyer. General Council will doubtless wish to express its formal felicitations to the men newly occupying the office of Synod President, both full-time and part-time. In addition, it seems to me that it would be quite appropriate for General Council to express an extra word of appreciation not only to those who have recently retired from the Synod presidency but also to all those who are now serving, or in the past have served, as Synod President on a part-time basis. As I have said each time I preached the installation sermon for a full-time President, "The Church will never know how great is its debt to those men who, while carrying the usual burdens of the pastorate, have added to them the burdens of the part-time presidency; and with few if any exceptions the service of these part-time Presidents has been of a highly commendable character."

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THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Life and work moves with continuingly encouraging pace as the United Church of Christ becomes each day a deeper and fuller reality.

Our Counselor will doubtless have something to report as to the status of the lawsuit entered June 20, 1957, by four congregations and 10 ministers and laymembers of the Congregational Christian Churches who are unsympathetic to the union.

Meanwhile, evidences continue to appear indicating that what was begun at Cleveland was something bigger than the interests of the two communions immediately concerned. A matter which is so delicate and confidential at this point as to require a sort of anonymity among us, and certainly no mention in the press, is that Dr. Hoskins and I have an appointment this fall to meet with members of the committee on interchurch relations of one of the smaller religious bodies from which a responsible interest in the United Church of Christ might scarcely have been expected.

Even more significant,- and again not for publication,- are expressions which continue to come from responsible sources in the Presbyterian Church, USA, now part of the new United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. At the uniting general assembly at Pittsburgh on May 28 one of the leading staff executives, said by some to be the leading executive of the denomination in his particular field, spoke to me privately. He told of a conversation he had had shortly before with a number of leaders of the (southern) Presbyterian Church, US. "I said to them", he told me, "'How long do you men really think it will be before the Southern Church will be ready to join with the new United Presbyterian Church?' To which they replied, 'Probably fifteen or twenty years'. To which I responded, 'That will probably be too late, for in my judgment by that time the new United Presbyterian Church will have taken some long steps toward becoming part of the United Church of Christ.'"

A voice similarly significant is that of Professor Norman V. Hope, of Princeton Theological Seminary, writing in the March, 1958 issue of The Reformed and Presbyterian World: "The Congregational Christian Churches have recently (1957) merged with the Evangelical and Reformed Church to form the United Church of Christ in America. It would seem logical that the Presbyterians, by reason of their similarity of ethos and their successful record in church union, should negotiate with this newly formed Church for possible unity, with some success. If this is so, there would seem to be a good case for postponing any overtures to the Protestant Episcopal Church, at least until such other possibilities have been fully explored."

The Working Groups

The Committee on Methods of Solicitation, Collection and Disbursement of Missionary, Benevolent and Administrative Funds has had four meetings and is scheduled to meet next at Cleveland from 1 p.m. September 29 to noon of the next day. A document containing this Committee's basic proposals has already been submitted to the appropriate sub-committee of the Commission on Constitution.

The Committee of Nine to Study Realignment had its first meeting in Cleveland June 13, 1958, and is scheduled to meet next, also in Cleveland, from noon on October 10 to noon on October 11. Direction this Committee's work is

taking is indicated in the following observations recorded in the Minutes of the June 13 meeting:

"That our study be confined to Conferences, since Associations fall within the limits of Conferences.

"That present boundaries of Conferences and Synods be studied, with number of churches and communicant members in each.

"That the philosophy behind Conferences and Synods regarding administration and program be studied.

"That qualifying factors, such as cultural, economic, communications, marketing, natural boundaries, and others be taken into serious consideration.

"That maps with facts about existing Conferences and Synods to include numbers of Associations, churches, and church membership be prepared for the next meeting of the committee, and that Dr. Herman H. Long be given responsibility for such preparation."

The Commission to Prepare a Constitution will hold its next meeting October 28-29 in Cleveland. All of the sub-committees with the exception of the sub-committee on Boards and Agencies were expected to have completed "tentatively final" drafts of their reports and have copies in the hands of the Co-Presidents on or before September 1. The Co-Presidents were planning to spend September 10-11 in seclusion at Buck Hill Falls Inn on the assignment to attempt the making of a preliminary draft of a co-ordinated and balanced constitutional document which the Commission would then consider at its October meeting.

The Commission to Prepare a Statement of Faith held its second full-scale meeting at Pittsburgh May 22-23. Tentative contents and phraseology for a proposed Statement of Faith were agreed upon there,- after 23 of the 30 members of the Commission had earlier submitted their own drafts of what they thought the Statement of Faith ought to be! A sub-committee is now engaged in further study and revision of the draft tentatively agreed upon in May, and this will furnish the basis of the Commission's next meeting which is scheduled for January 22-23 in Pittsburgh.

Since our February meeting the Administrative Committee of the Executive Council of the United Church has held two meetings, March 21 at Philadelphia and May 26 in New York, and is scheduled to meet next at 9:30 a.m., October 8 in New York. The Executive Council met at Cleveland April 9-10, and will meet again in Cleveland from 7:30 p.m. October 29 to 5 p.m. October 30. Most of the items hereafter reported reflect decisions taken at these various meetings of the Council and its Administrative Committee.

Doings and Decisions

The Co-Presidents in mid-spring addressed a letter on Inter-Communion to Our Sister Churches Throughout the World, this communication having been mailed to executives of almost 250 bodies. The mailing list was developed, after checking against duplications, from the lists of the National and World Councils of Churches, the World Alliance of Reformed and Presbyterian Churches,

and the International Congregational Council. Appreciative replies have begun to come in. The Christian Century, issue of May 21, commended the letter editorially, reproducing the text thereof almost in full.

The Study Guide on The United Church of Christ, prepared by our Dr. Fred D. Wentzel, was mailed to pastors in both constituencies, and it is believed will have wide use this fall, especially in connection with our second observance of October as Ecumenical Month.

A second Study Guide, "The Laity, The Church and The Bible", will be prepared by President Robert V. Moss, Jr., and Professor Roger Hazelton, to be ready for distribution January 1, 1959, and it is hoped will find wide use during Lent or the season between Easter and Pentecost. This Study Guide "will emphasize the place of people in the church, rather than theological interpretation of the church".

The Co-Presidents are under commission to prepare a pamphlet giving a brief description of the United Church which will be useful among our members and in publicizing and interpreting the United Church to communities in which our churches are located or new mission churches are to be established. One problem has been how to tell the story as fully as possible without making a statement which can be capitalized on by those opposed to the union.

A letter of greeting in the name of the United Church of Christ was sent to the uniting general assembly of the new United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., while our two constituencies were respectively represented by those named elsewhere in this report.

This Co-President has been designated as the fraternal delegate of the United Church of Christ to the General Assembly of the United Church of Canada in Ottawa which will have convened before this General Council will have adjourned.

Appropriate greetings were transmitted to the 6th General Assembly of the United Church of Christ in the Philippines.

For the second time, October is to be observed as Ecumenical Month in both constituencies on a pattern similar to last year's observance; and preliminary announcements and suggestions have already been addressed to pastors.

The Rev. Nathanael M. Guptill, who several months ago was elected Associate Secretary and Minister of the General Council of Congregational Christian Churches, succeeding the Rev. Fred S. Buschmeyer in that office, was elected by the Executive Council to succeed Dr. Buschmeyer also as Co-Secretary of the United Church.

By action of the Executive Council, the Rev. Professor John P. Dillenberger, formerly of Harvard but now of Drew, served as fraternal representative of the United Church at the Ecumenical Study Conference held in Berlin July 7-9 under auspices of the Evangelical Church of the Union (EKU). Officials of the EKU took opportunity during this conference to discuss with Dr. Dillenberger and Bishop Newbigin the development of some relationship with the Church of South India similar to the relationship effected in a preliminary way between the EKU and our United Church. Bishop Newbigin is reported to have suggested approaches also to the United Church of Canada.

The American Leprosy Missions, Inc., has now prepared a new issue of its promotional leaflet in the name of the United Church of Christ, to take the place of separately identified leaflets previously in use.

The book, "Great Phrases of the Christian Language", first such publishing venture by Pilgrim Press and Christian Education Press under the imprint of "United Church Press", is selling well since first copies became available in late spring.

Initial steps have been taken toward setting up a Committee on Roadside Sign and Church Seal for the United Church of Christ.

In response to an action taken by General Council last February the Executive Council referred to its Personnel Committee the study of work responsibilities and salaries of personnel in the general offices of the United Church of Christ, and a report is expected at the October meeting.

Two actions were taken by the Executive Council in response to General Council's request voted last February that "the Executive Council .... consider the problem of reimbursement of travel expenses for the members of the Administrative Boards".

The following three recommendations of the Executive Council's Finance Committee were adopted:

> "1. It is proposed that committees and commissions of the United Church of Christ plan their meetings at such times and in such places as will require the minimum of expense for all persons involved.
>
> "2. It is proposed that clergy members of committees and commissions of the United Church of Christ who do not presently hold clergy railroad certificates secure them as soon as possible and charge the cost of same to their United Church of Christ expense accounts.
>
> 3. Proposals 1 and 2 above do not suggest or imply that all meetings should be held in any specific location nor any specific mode of travel for either clergy or lay members of committees and commissions of the United Church of Christ. They are offered as suggestions which, if followed, will require such minimal demands upon the treasury of the United Church of Christ as may be feasible with effective functioning of such committees and commissions."

A further action voted was "that a committee of three, including the chairman of the Finance Committee, consider the extent of the financial obligations involved in travel expenses of the members of the committees of boards and agencies when meeting during the interim and submit a recommendation at the next (October) meeting".

Executive Council Terms of Service

As authorized by General Council, our Administrative Committee designated terms of service on the Executive Council of the United Church for those elected at the Uniting General Synod as follows:

Six years. Rev. Ben M. Herbster, Rev. James E. Wagner, Mr. Donald C. Dearborn, Mr. John W. Mueller.

Four years. Rev. John R. C. Haas, Rev. Sheldon E. Mackey, Mrs. E. Roy Corman, Mr. Harold F. Webber.

Two years. Rev. John W. Flucke, Rev. Albert G. Gonser, Mr. Allan G. Aigler, Mr. F. A. Keck.

A similar designation was made by the appropriate body of the Congregational Christian General Council. The appropriate body in each constituency must be prepared to propose nominees from each for the vacancies for the 2-year terms which will expire when the Second General Synod meets in 1959.

Second General Synod in 1959

The Second General Synod of the United Church of Christ will be held July 5-9, 1959, at Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio. This will follow immediately the meeting of our own Eleventh General Synod scheduled to be held at the same place July 1-5. The celebration of the Holy Communion Sunday morning, July 5, jointly attended by delegates to each General Synod, will symbolize the closing of one and opening of the other.

The Administrative Committee (UCC) is recommending to the Executive Council that the document containing "advance reports" for the Second General Synod shall be known as the "White Book" and that it shall include reports from the following: the Committee on Solicitation....of Funds, the Commission on Statement of Faith, the Commission on Constitution, the Council for Christian Social Action, the Commission on Church and Ministry, all integrated programs now in process, Co-Presidents and Co-Secretaries, local churches that have been united, ordained CC men serving E and R churches and vice versa, and the measure in which home and foreign mission work is integrated. Doubtless other desirable contents will suggest themselves in due time. Material is to be ready for the printer by April 15, 1959, and the White Book distributed one month in advance of the 1959 General Synod. Possibility of a central registration office for both General Synods at Oberlin is being considered. Also under consideration is a Sunday evening convocation such as has characterized our own General Synods.

The present Executive Council is to serve as Business Committee for the Second General Synod.

Associate members of the Second General Synod to a number not exceeding 75 from each constituency will make possible their participation with voice but no vote according to the pattern of the Uniting General Synod. This will give official status to those who in our own General Synod are registered as Delegates at Large and Accredited Visitors.

Since the delegates of each constituency at the Second General Synod will be based upon communicant membership--"one delegate representing each three thousand communicants or major fraction thereof" (BU, X, E)--this General Council will be interested in the following information:

"Congregational Christian Conference executives have been requested by the Executive Committee of the (CC) General Council to deduct, from the number of members in their areas to be used in determining their delegations, the number of members in all Congregational Christian Churches which have sent to their state offices formal notice that they will not enter the United Church of Christ or for other reasons do not wish at present to be included in statistics used for the purpose of determining the number of delegates to the Second General Synod of the United Church of Christ."

United Church Herald

In accord with an authorization voted by General Council at its February meeting, on April 10 at Cleveland, the Administrative Committee (Mr. Aigler absent) with five other members of General Council who also were in Cleveland for the meeting of the Executive Council (UCC) approved the compromise plan which was proposed by the Joint Committee on a Journal for the United Church. Our action specifically entered the exception that "without at all agreeing with the judgments, conclusions and implications of the prefatory paragraphs in the statement of the Joint Committee" we were approving the compromise plan as the best basis on which at present it could be hoped to launch the journal for the United Church.

The compromise plan assures the publication, first issue of which is now scheduled for October 9. The plan has some obvious advantages. It does not precipitate the sudden withdrawal from Eden Publishing House of the work which the printing of The Messenger has provided. It does give Eden Publishing House two years in which to demonstrate the competence and capacity which so many of us believe Eden possesses. The experience of the two years may, further, change the mood and perspective of all those most immediately concerned to the end that the possibility of printing the United Church journal in St. Louis while some of its major editorial responsibilities are carried on in New York would not be so difficult and impracticable as present contemplation of that possibility would suggest.

What is chiefly to be rejoiced about is that without indefinite delay, indeed remarkably soon after the Uniting General Synod, the United Church of Christ is to be undergirded and enriched by publication of one major bi-weekly journal for the two constituencies. The sample cover page and promotional literature which has been mailed out give us every reason to anticipate that the United Church Herald, which it is to be called, will continue and doubtless expand the high traditions of religious journalism which were embodied in Advance and The Messenger.

Acting Like A True Church

I bring this whole section of my report to an end with just one major observation. Day by day since the initial acts of June, 1957, the United Church of Christ has been acting more and more like a true Church. This seems to me to be clearly signified by the foregoing reports of United Church activities and plans. Without doubt there remain yet many difficult problems to be solved, and like every living thing we cannot expect to pass through our days without some pain. The necessity of going through the litigation forced upon us by opponents of the union cannot help but operate sometimes as a drag

and damper to our spirits, even though we have no doubts about the validity and durability of the United Church of Christ. But all which has been herein cited by way of report to this session of our General Council conspires to make clear one joyous fact:- the Lord of the Church has brought us a long, long way,- farther than probably any of us could venture to dream of or hope for a year ago last June. "Ebenezer....Hitherto the Lord has helped us". (I Samuel 7:12).

Synchronizing Future General Synod Meetings

Our General Synod in 1959 will be held at the same place and immediately prior to the Second General Synod of the United Church. It has been recognized by leaders in both constituencies that, in the interests of economy, and because of our confidence that as time goes on the functions of the Evangelical and Reformed General Synod and of the Congregational Christian General Council will tend to decrease as the functions of the General Synod of the United Church of Christ increase, steps ought to be taken to synchronize the meetings of all three general bodies. The CC General Council has met biennially as will the UCC General Synod; and at Boston the CC General Council took action providing for its next regular meeting to be held in 1961 after an interval of three years, then revert to the 2-year interval so as to provide for regular meetings in the same years as the General Synod of the United Church of Christ will meet. At the June 16 meeting of our Administrative Committee it was suggested that at this meeting of the General Council the President of the Church should propose steps by which meetings of our General Synod may be synchronized after 1959 with meetings of the General Synod of the United Church. The following seem to be the pertinent observations:

1. The General Council should recommend the amendment of By-Law 80a by substituting the word "biennially" for the word "triennially" so as to read, "The General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church shall meet in regular session <u>biennially</u>".

2. Since officers of the Church, members of General Council, members of Boards, Commissions, and the Boards of Auxiliary Organizations are elected for terms of six years, six being a multiple of 2 as well as of 3, no change in terminology of By-Laws 89a, 91a, 92a, 93a, 95a, appears to be necessary.

3. But, if the General Synod of 1959 amends By-Law 80a as proposed above, and since then the next regular meeting of General Synod would occur in 1961 instead of 1962, General Council should recommend that the General Synod of 1959 adopt a resolution providing that 6-year terms which would expire in 1962 should be extended one year so as to expire in 1963 when General Synod would again meet in regular session. From then on the 6-year provision would operate as heretofore.

Miscellaneous Matters

<u>1959 Brazil Meeting of the Alliance</u>. In consultation with the Administrative Committee the following have been asked to serve as our six delegates to the Eighteenth General Council of the World Alliance of Reformed and Presbyterian Churches which is to meet at Campinas, Brazil, July 27 to August 7, 1959: the Rev. Silas P. Bittner, D.D., the Rev. Louis H. Gunnemann, D.D., Dr. Alvin R. Keppel, the Rev. Allen O. Miller, Ph.D., Mrs. Reuben J. Schroer, and the President of the Church. In this connection a communication

has been received from the Board of International Missions reporting the following action: "In view of the mission program of the United Church of Christ in Latin America, it was voted as follows: To ask the General Council to consider appointing a representative from one of our Latin American mission fields as a delegate to the World Reformed Presbyterian Alliance Meeting in Brazil in 1959." It should be pointed out that the General Council of the World Alliance is a body made up of delegates appointed by member Churches, which would seem to preclude the possibility of naming a national from either our Honduras or Ecuador fields as one of our official delegation. On the other hand, it would certainly be of real value, and without doubt strengthen our strategies in both Latin American fields, if arrangements could be made for a representative "fraternal delegate" to be sent from each of those fields. It might be suggested that the Board of International Missions take steps in consultation with the President of the Church to this end, and in due time file a request for reimbursement in whole or in part of the expenses incurred in sending these fraternal delegates. It might be a healthy thing if the churches of the Honduras Synod were encouraged in some small way to share in the expense of their fraternal delegate. Further, General Council ought to stress once again its insistence that such fraternal delegates from these mission fields should represent the choice of their national brethren and sisters, and not simply the initiative of the mission staff on either field.

Fraternal Delegates to 1959 General Synod. The foregoing paragraph suggests another question: Do we wish to invite to our 1959 General Synod, as for the first time we invited to our 1956 General Synod, fraternal delegates from the national Churches on some of the mission fields in which we are serving? It seems clear that the experiment in 1956 was highly rewarding in many ways, and if our resources will at all permit it, we should continue the practice in 1959. There would be the additional inducement that these fraternal delegates could remain right on for the sessions of the second General Synod of the United Church of Christ, and thus acquire a further enriching experience of what we want our national Christians as well as ourselves to realize increasingly, namely, their membership in "the whole Christian Church throughout all the world". Our fraternal delegates in 1956 were from Japan, India, and Ghana. If we were to continue this practice for the 1959 General Synod, the fraternal delegates should come from Honduras, Ecuador, French Togoland and Iraq or from one field or more chosen among these four. There is a question as to whether we have affiliated with us in Ecuador, French Togoland and Iraq a Christian community sufficiently formally organized to justify inclusion in this invitation. The one most obvious exception to that statement is French Togoland where our missionaries work in cooperation with the Evangelical Presbyterian Church of French Togoland just as truly as they do with the sister Church in Ghana. The advices of our International Missions staff will, of course, be helpful at this point.

Fifth World Order Study Conference. Under date of April 30 the call was issued by the President of the National Council of Churches for the Fifth World Order Study Conference to be held at Cleveland, Ohio, November 18-21, 1958. The theme for this conference is to be, "Christian Responsibility on a Changing Planet". This conference is in direct succession to the previous four beginning with one held during World War II at Delaware, Ohio on "The Churches and a Just and Durable Peace", the next three being held at Cleveland. We are assigned a quota of ten delegates to the coming conference. Since the call came more than two months after our February meeting, and the selection of this delegation had to be forwarded prior to this meeting of the General

Council, the Administrative Committee at its June 16 meeting authorized "the President of the Church to appoint ten delegates, making these appointments in consultation with the executives of the Commission on Christian Social Action, the Women's Guild and the Youth Department of the Board of Christian Education and Publication, and endeavoring especially to include representatives from organized labor and the political science faculties of our Church-related colleges." The following have agreed to serve on our delegation: The Rev. Ralph C. Abele, D.D., Mr. Paul E. Baumer, Mrs. Henry C. Henzel, Dr. Clarence E. Josephson, the Rev. Huber F. Klemme, D.D., the Rev. Henry C. Koch, D.D., Prof. Lewis I. Maddocks, Mrs. Robert L. McGeehan, Mr. C. B. Newell, Mr. Fred Sommerfeld.

Method of Electing Delegates to General Synod. Reports received from several denominational representatives indicated that while some of the Synods, in electing delegates to the next General Synod, tried to conform to the procedure contemplated in item 5 of the Report of the Committee on Constitutional Matters, page 160 of the 1958 Blue Book, there was considerable difference from one Synod to another, and some confusion. In addition, what happened in another of our Synods is reflected in the following description: "There is evidence that, while our constitution does not permit a slate of candidates for electing representatives to General Synod, a group of younger men apparently elected themselves a nominating committee handing out lists of typewritten names to certain representatives, that the result did not fully represent a true picture of desires of Synod. Some men called me concerning the matter which they had observed both as delegates and as members of the elections committee requesting me to ask Synodical Council to set a special meeting of Synod for the purpose of rescinding the vote and have a new election. After considering the matter, I advised against this procedure: never-the-less feel that such a condition is worthy of some form of censure." Furthermore, some question was raised in Administrative Committee discussion as to the desirability of the method contemplated in the interpretation advanced in the Blue Book. Having all this in mind the Administrative Committee requested Dr. Haas and Dr. Herbster to prepare for the fall meeting of the General Council a memorandum which should include an alternative to the electoral procedure suggested by the Committee on Constitutional Matters. These brethren will report at an appropriate time during our meeting.

Upper Sandusky Home Campaign. The Board of Trustees of the Home for the Aged at Upper Sandusky, Ohio, unanimously adopted the following action: "That we overture the Commission on Benevolent Institutions and the General Council for permission to launch a campaign in the supporting Synods for the erection of a Hospital Unit at Upper Sandusky and the establishing of branch Homes in the northeast and southwest areas of the state. The campaign is to run for two years beginning September 1958 with a goal of $600,000." At the time the Administrative Committee met we had no knowledge as to whether the Commission on Benevolent Institutions had endorsed this request. That endorsement has since been received. Beyond that, however, the Administrative Committee expressed the judgment "that approval of a campaign for a relatively large amount, as here proposed, should be given by the General Council rather than the Administrative Committee." This is the item which I referred to in presenting the special resolutions adopted by the Commission on Higher Education at its meeting in Chicago. The actions in both instances bring out into bold relief a matter of growing concern to many of us, namely, as to whether expanding synodical budgets and appeals from benevolent and educational institutions may not be approaching the proportions where they cannot help but

jeopardize the support which our people have been giving to the Kingdom Service Apportionment and to World Service. This consideration is not mentioned with the intent to discourage affirmative action on the Upper Sandusky request, but in order that General Council may not forget what threatens to become a hazard to the larger work of the Church.

Study Committee on Deaconess Order. Dr. Carl C. Rasche reported under date of May 20 that the committee would be meeting in June and it was hoped to have completed by the close of that meeting what will constitute the committee's final report to the General Council. I have suggested that if Dr. Rasche can be present at our meeting on September 16 we will make this report a special item of business during the first day of our meeting. We should be encouraged by the fact that now a second of the special study committees which have been at work since the last General Synod is prepared to report.

Proposed Mission House Amendment. The Board of Trustees of Mission House Theological Seminary proposes to amend Article XIII of the Articles of Incorporation to read as follows, the change by way of addition being indicated by underscoring: These articles may be amended in the manner authorized by law at the time of amendment, but such amendment shall be effective only upon approval by the General Synod or by the General Council of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, such approval to be evidenced by its certificate thereto executed by its President and Secretary and under its seal.

Home for Aged--Southern Synod. The chairman of the special committee on the home for the aged advised the President's office in March that the committee was preparing to recommend to the Synod that such a home be established in North Carolina. Approval of the General Council for this project was sought. I wrote a letter calling attention to the recommendation of General Council that Synods contemplating the establishing of a benevolent institution seek counsel of the Commission on Benevolent Institutions before proceeding with plans. I suggested, further, that communication be had with the secretary of the Commission on Benevolent Institutions. No further word has been received on this matter.

New Mission House Faculty Member. The Board of Trustees of Mission House Theological Seminary at its regular meeting February 4, 1958 elected Mr. Paul Hammer as Professor of New Testament to assume his duties with the beginning of the school year 1958-59, as successor to the late Rev. Prof. Walter F. Kuentzel. Mr. Hammer is a graduate of Nebraska Weslyan University and the Yale Divinity School and most recently has been completing work toward his doctor's degree in theology at Heidelberg University in Germany. He is a member of the Evangelical (Mission) Covenant Church, in which his father is a minister, but, in accord with my advice to the Board, has expressed a willingness to become affiliated with the Evangelical and Reformed Church. This will come to pass either by application for Privilege of Call after his ordination in the communion in which he grew up and of which his father is still a minister, or it is possible that he may qualify in regular procedure for ordination by us. It seems to me that everything would justify General Council's approval of his election to this professorship subject to final confirmation by the General Synod of our Church.

Committee on Fall Meetings. After consultation with the Department of United Promotion, in accord with the direction of General Council, I

appointed as members of the Committee on Program for the Fall Meetings of Synods the following: the Rev. Clarence K. Gebhart, the Rev. Paul T. Slinghoff, D.D., the Rev. Paul C. Kehle, the Rev. Carl W. Klein, D.D., the Rev. Perry L. Smith, D.D., the Rev. L. C. T. Miller, D.D.

Pension and Investment Funds for Mission Churches. Michigan-Indiana Synod adopted a resolution which reads as follows: "Resolved, that Michigan-Indiana Synod overtures General Council to direct the Board of Pensions and Relief and the Board of Investments to invest some of their funds for the purpose of initiating mission churches through a safeguarded loan program,and

Further Resolved, that the Secretary of Michigan-Indiana Synod shall circularize the other thirty-two (32) Synods of the Church with this overture." One suspects that there may be legal perils to any such use of the funds referred to, but in any event General Council will want to consider very soberly all the possible ramifications of such a proposal.

Franklin and Marshall Trustee. Notice has been received that the term of the Rev. Frederick D. Eyster, D.D., as a member of the Board of Trustees of Franklin and Marshall College expired July 1, 1958. He has served the Church faithfully and well and has not failed at any time to voice concerns on college matters which reflect the mind of the Church. His re-election for another 5-year term can be strongly urged. The June meeting of the Franklin and Marshall Board approved a number of proposals for revision of the Charter. One of the revisions provides as follows: "Prior to each meeting of the Board of Trustees held during the College Commencement, the Evangelical and Reformed Church, its successor or successors, shall elect one Trustee to serve for a term of five years, beginning the first day of July thereafter. The election of such trustee shall be certified to the Board of Trustees prior to such meeting by proper officer of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, its successor or successors." Another section of the Charter embodies the basic provision that, of a total of 35 trustees, "Five trustees shall be elected by the Evangelical and Reformed Church, its successor or successors, duly authorized in whatever form of election the Church may determine and notice of the election shall be served by the proper officer of the Church upon the Secretary of Franklin and Marshall College prior to the meeting of the Board of Trustees."

General Synod Committee on Arrangements. In accord with procedure adopted prior to the General Synod of 1956, it is recommended that General Council designate the Administrative Committee as the Committee on Arrangements for the General Synod of 1959, and empower the Administrative Committee to appoint the General Synod committees after delegations have been duly reported by the synods.

We were invited to send a fraternal delegation to the General Council of Congregational Christian Churches which met in Boston in June. It would seem in order and to our mutual profit if we were to reciprocate by inviting a similar fraternal delegation of ten to attend our General Synod at Oberlin. Authorization of the invitation at this meeting of General Council would give Congregational Christian officers that much more time to select their delegation. As did they for their meeting in Boston, it might be well for us to suggest their delegation be made up, not of denominational officials and board staff members, but rather of pastors and lay men and women who would be typical of their laity and parish ministry.

Magyar Synod Conference. In accord with a directive of General Council a conference was held April 11 in Cleveland between representatives of General Council and the Synodical Council of the Magyar Synod and certain others invited for the day. An appendix to this report will reflect the experiences of this conference and some of the fruitful suggestions growing out of it.

Insurance Guide. By authorization of the Administrative Committee copies have been secured (sample in appendix) to be mailed to all our pastors of "The Official Insurance Guide for Churches and Synagogues". This Guide was prepared under auspices of the National Association of Insurance Agents, and made available through the Office for Councils of Churches in the National Council of Churches.

Change at Ursinus. Dr. Donald L. Helfferich has succeeded Dr. Norman E. McClure as president of Ursinus College. Dr. McClure resigned at the conclusion of 30 years service on the Ursinus campus, 1928-36 as professor of English, 1936-58 as president. He will continue to teach a few courses in English which his friends say always was the field of his "first academic love".

Dr. Helfferich has served the Church increasingly widely in recent years, notably as a member of the 1950-53 Study Committee and now as a member of the United Church's Commission to Prepare a Constitution. Graduate of Ursinus and of the Yale Law School, almost his whole professional life has been devoted to the unusual combination of banking and education. He was executive vice-president of Ursinus College 1936-58, having first come on the staff in 1927. In addition, since 1937 he has been executive vice-president of the Upper Darby National Bank which early this year merged with Philadelphia's Girard Trust Corn Exchange Bank (total deposits now $686,000,000) and Dr. Helfferich continues as senior vice-president of this big financial institution.

General Council will have some word of gratitude to Dr. McClure for his work at Ursinus, and a further word of felicitations and good wishes for Dr. Helfferich as he begins his new responsibilities.

Felicitations. Dr. Ben M. Herbster was one of ten American pastors to participate this summer in the International Interchange of Preachers between America and the British Isles. His devotional address at the opening of this session of General Council will doubtless reflect his summer experience in this significant assignment.

Our esteemed First Vice-President, Dr. John R. C. Haas, was honored on July 20 by the congregation of St. John's Church, Evansville, Indiana, in celebration of the fortieth anniversary of his ordination to the Christian ministry. The sermon for the occasion was preached by Dr. Sheldon E. Mackey, Secretary of the Church.

Conclusion

As I near the conclusion of this report it is a temptation to share with you two matters which came to my attention while the report was in writing.

One appeared in the June issue of the bulletin issued by the office of the President of Northeast Ohio Synod. The bulletin bears the title "NEO-SYNEWS"

which intrigues the imagination. One item in this issue reports that "six pastors were received into the membership of Synod" (evidently referring to those newly-ordained or coming by Privilege of Call) and then goes on to say, "They publicly subscribed to the General Synod formula as follows:

> 'I hereby testify that I accept the doctrinal standards of the Evangelical and Reformed Church as authoritative interpretations of the essential truth taught in the Holy Scriptures, and promise to preach and teach the same. I also promise that I will observe all ordinances of the Church which now are or may hereafter be enacted in accordance with the Word of God by the authorities of the Church, and that I will submit to all admonitions and decisions of these authorities so long as I remain a member or an officer of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.'

"They then signed their names upon the Synod Register", the item concludes.

This formula appears in the Book of Worship under the title "The Form for Licensure". Since the term "licensure" has been dropped from our usage, the form continues to be used on the occasion of Synod's approval of a candidate for ordination or at time of ordination and in receiving those who come to us from other denominations by Privilege of Call. The text is obviously not familiar to many other than our ministers. Indeed, there are occasions when one wonders if a minister were ever acquainted with the formula, or has just forgotten it! But reprinting it here may serve as a reminder of something precious in our heritage, the wide freedom of mind and spirit which our ministers have had and, bound with it, a strong insistence on a sense of responsibility in the exercise of that freedom, and a concept of the Church in which every communicant, every ordained minister, every local congregation, while each stands in immediate relation with the Lord of the Church, is conceived of as inextricably identified with that larger fellowship within whose life our own life in Christ was conceived and nurtured.

The second item consists of three paragraphs from an editorial which appeared in The Church Advocate, bi-weekly journal of the Churches of God in North America. Not to be confused with the Church of God having headquarters at Anderson, Indiana, the Churches of God in North America, one of our smaller religious bodies, with about 30,000 communicants, has its headquarters at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. It is a direct offspring of the former Reformed Church in the United States, having been born in the so-called "Second Great Awakening", 1800-40, out of which came also the United Brethren Church (now Evangelical United Brethren), the Christian (now Congregational Christian), and the Disciples of Christ. Appearing in the journal of a religious body having somewhat more conservative doctrinal views than those common among us, these paragraphs are all the more significant:

"We receive letters from time to time", wrote the editor, "from people who are sincerely concerned about matters of doctrine. They are fearful of the influence of what they term 'modernism' in our churches. They are most insistent about what they consider to be the fundamental position in theology and doctrine. They deplore the looseness of the position of many of their fellow church members on matters of faith and practice.

"But one matter about which they are strangely silent is a basic,

fundamental element of Christian doctrine. They do not seem to be alarmed about our financial statistics. They perhaps do not realize that a treasurer's report is just as much an item of doctrine as a belief in the Virgin Birth. For if that report reveals a deficit, if it indicates that the churches have failed to give 'as God has prospered them,' then the report reveals a deficit of Christian faith, a lack of fundamental conviction, just as surely as if someone preached a sermon advocating disbelief in Scriptural miracles.

"A deficit in the budget is more dangerous to the Church than all the attacks of the skeptics, for it is indicative of a 'fifth column' working silently within the body," the editor concluded.

More than one vital truth is reflected in those paragraphs, but one serves the purposes of this report. It is the affirmation that ultimately the measure of our right to the name of Christian rests not on the words we say about our Lord Jesus Christ but the extent to which, "in soul and body, property and life", we are committed to the promulgation of His Gospel and the extension of His Kingdom. And the function of ecclesiastical administration, that is to say, the function of Boards, Commissions, Auxiliary Organizations, the General Council itself, even the General Synod, the function which must concern each of us as we "sit in high places" in the life of the Church, may be summed up in that way. We are charged with the nurture among our people,- and the practice in our own private lives,- of an ever fuller commitment of all that they and we have and are to the Gospel and the Kingdom of our Lord.

Respectfully submitted,

JAMES E. WAGNER, President.

Appendix I

PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE, February 10, 1958 - September 18, 1958

February 10-13 - Cleveland, Ohio, General Council meeting.
14 - Cleveland, Ohio, Committee on Program for Conference of Synod Presidents.
P.M., Study Group on the Laity, UCC
15 - Cleveland, Ohio, Study Group on the Laity, UCC
25 - New York, Committee on Denominational Support, NCC
26-27 - New York, General Board, NCC

March 9 - Allentown, Pennsylvania, Salem Church, SERMON
10-11 - New York City, N.Y., Lawsuit, Conference with Dr. Hoskins
14 - Syracuse, N.Y., First Baptist Church, Civic Noonday Lenten Service, SERMON
Ministerial Association, ADDRESS
Friedens E&R Church, CC&ER Ministers and Laypeople, ADDRESS
16 - Emmaus, Pa., St. John's Church, 20th Anniversary of Pastor, SERMON

April 2 - Cincinnati, Ohio, Administrative Committee.
8-9 - Cleveland, Ohio, Constitution Commission, UCC
9-10 - Cleveland, Ohio, Executive Council, UCC
11 - Cleveland, Ohio, Meeting with Magyar Synod Synodical Council.
15 - Willow Street, Pa., Women's Guild, ADDRESS.
Conferred with Dr. Moss.
17 - West Palm Beach, Fla., Florida Conference of C.C.C., SERMON and ADDRESS.
21-23 - Chicago, Ill., Consultation on Higher Education, UCC
25 - New Haven, Conn., Yale Divinity School, Lunch with E&R Students
LECTURE to ER-CC Students on UCC policy.
26 - Edwardsville, Ill., Meeting with Eden Church's Church Council, Building Committee and wives.
27 - Edwardsville, Ill., Eden Church, A.M., SERMON
P.M., Dedication ADDRESS
28 - New York, N.Y., Conference with Dr. Hoskins.
30 - Nazareth, Pa., St. John's Church, East Pennsylvania Synodical Women's Guild, SERMON

May 2 - New York, N.Y., N.C.C., General Nominating Committee
4 - Spring City, Pa., Brownback's Church, 215th Anniversary, SERMON
5 - Boston, Mass., Massachusetts Congregational Convention, ADDRESS
6-7 - Bethlehem, Pa., East Penna. Synod, Denominational Representative
9 - Portland, Oregon, Deposition in First Church lawsuit
13-14 - Shawano, Wis., North Wis. Synod, Denominational Representative
21-22 - Meyersdale, Pa., Pittsburgh Synod, Denominational Representative
22-23 - Pittsburgh, Pa., Commission on Statement of Faith, UCC
25 - Mercersburg, Pa., Mercersburg Academy, SERMON
28 - Pittsburgh, Pa., Uniting General Assembly of Presbyterian Church of USA and United Presbyterian Church.

June 1 - Salisbury, N.C., Catawba College, Baccalaureate SERMON
ADDRESS, Dinner meeting with Pastors.
3 - Lancaster, Pa., Lancaster Seminary Commencement, ADDRESS
4 - Minneapolis, Minn., General Nominating Committee, NCC
4-5 - Minneapolis, Minn., General Board, NCC
6 - Chicago, Ill., Chicago Bureau of Research and Survey, Orientation session.

PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE -2-

June	7	- Chicago, Ill., Tour of E&R Mission Churches in Chicago area. P.M., Jackson, Wis., Conference with pastors and wives.
	8	- Jackson, Wis., St. Peter's Church, Centennial Service, SERMON
	10	- New York, N.Y., Meeting of Committee on Procedures for presenting Constitution to General Synod.
	12	- Allentown, Pa., Phoebe Home, Open House, ADDRESS
	14	- Camp Ohio, Mansfield, Ohio, Dedication, ADDRESS
	15	- New Bremen, Ohio, St. Paul Church, 125th Anniversary, SERMON
	16	- Cleveland, Ohio, Administrative Committee.
	17	- Cleveland, Ohio, Kingdom Service Conference, OPENING ADDRESS
	22	- Lancaster, Pa., St. Peter's Church, Ordination of G. Richard Ott, SERMON
	23	- Philadelphia, Pa., Administrative Committee, North American Area of the Alliance.
	24-25	- Boston, Mass., CC General Council
July	2-3	- Hartford, Conn., International Congregational Council
August	4-9	- Glasgow, Scotland, Executive Committee of the World Alliance of Reformed and Presbyterian Churches.
	19-30	- Nyborg Strand, Denmark, Central Committee, World Council of Churches.
September	7	- A.M., Waco, Texas, Zion Church, SERMON P.M., Installation of the Rev. John G. Mueller as full-time President of Texas Synod, SERMON
	10-11	- Buck Hill Falls, Pa., Conference with Dr. Hoskins.
	14-18	- Burlington, Iowa, General Council

PERSONNEL MATTERS

APPLICATIONS FOR PRIVILEGE OF CALL

Rev. Eugene Frank Molnar, 300 Ridge Road, Lackawanna 18, New York. Age 67. Schooling: University of Kolozsvar, Hungary, University of Geneva, Geneva, Switzerland, Seminary, Reformed Church, Hungary, Kolozsvar. Ordained by the Reformed Church in Hungary in 1915. Now member of Presbyterian Church USA. Widower, one son. References: Rev. Laszlo Borsay, Dr. L. Vatai.

Rev. Andrew Hamza, 58 Midland Avenue, Yonkers, New York. Age 38. Schooling: Budapest, Hungary. Ordained by the Evangelical and Reformed Church in 1951. Dismissed to the Presbyterian Church November 1, 1957. Married, two children. References: Rev. Stephen M. Boszormenyi, Rev. Julius Paal, Rev. John Butosi.

APPLICATIONS FOR PRIVILEGE OF CALL APPROVED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. Roy J. Meyer, Box 638, Peotone, Illinois. Age 37. Schooling: North Central College, Naperville, Illinois, Evangelical Theological Seminary, Naperville, Garrett Biblical Institute. Ordained by the Evangelical United Brethren Church. Married, three children. References: Rev. E. H. Plassman, Rev. E. Gander.

Rev. Gilbert Werner Anderson, 3742 Earlham Street, Apt. 1-C, Philadelphia 29, Penna. Age 27. Schooling: Indiana University, Fort Wayne Bible College, Faith Theological Seminary, Philadelphia. Ordained by the Conservative Baptist Association in 1957. Married. No E and R references.

RENEWAL OF PRIVILEGE OF CALL APPROVED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

Rev. Mervin Andrew Heller, Central Y.M.C.A. Building, Reading, Penna. Age 51. Schooling: Muhlenberg College, Allentown, Penna., Crozer Theological Seminary. Ordained by the American Baptist Convention in 1935. Married, one son. References: Dr. S. E. Mackey, Dr. P. T. Slinghoff, Dr. D. J. Wetzel, Dr. L. M. Erdman, Rev. C. L. Marcus, Rev. F. A. Rosenberger.

Rev. Everett F. Wright, Fayette, New York. Age 56. Schooling: Hartwick Seminary Academy, Wittenberg College, Springfield, Ohio, Hartwick Seminary, Brooklyn, New York. Ordained by the United Lutheran Church in 1934. Married. References: Rev. H. L. Siegner, Dr. Julius W. Kuck, Rev. E. H. Spindler. Pastor of the Federated congregation at Fayette.

APPLICATIONS FOR PRIVILEGE OF CALL MADE BY CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN MINISTERS AND APPROVED BY DR. WAGNER.

Rev. William Mason Jay, R. 1, Aspers, Penna. Age 75. Schooling: Defiance College, Ohio State University, University of Virginia (1 quarter), University of North Carolina (2 quarters), Divinity School of Chicago. Ordained by the Christian Church in 1910. Married, two daughters. References: Rev. Nevin R. Frantz, Dr. Howard S. Fox. This Privilege of Call was granted so that Mr. Jay could transfer his ministerial status to Mercersburg Synod within whose bounds he resides. He will not be an applicant for any vacant congregation.

Personnel Matters - 2
CC Applications Continued

Rev. Richard Henry Gardner, 546 Colonial Avenue, Worthington, Ohio. Age 43. Schooling: Ohio State University, Oberlin Graduate School of Theology. Ordained by the Congregational Christian Churches in 1950. Married. References: Rev. C.K. Gebhart.

Rev. Clarence B. Gould, 122 Kinsey Ave., Kenmore 17, N.Y. Age 71. Schooling: Glen Aubrey, N.Y., Whitney Point, N.Y., Ewing College, Ewing, Ill., Union Theological College, Chicago, Ill., Chicago Congregational Seminary, Northern Baptist Seminary. Ordained by the Congregational Christian Churches in 1926. Married, one daughter. References: Dr. Julius W. Kuck, Rev. T. T. Lehmann.

Rev. Paul R. Hediger, P.O. Box 115, Glen Ullin, North Dakota. Age 62. Schooling: Reinach, Aargau, Switzerland, St. Chrischona Seminary, Basel, Switzerland, Mt. Royal College and St. Stephen's College, Alta, Canada. Ordained by Reformed Church, Switzerland and North Dakota Conference. Married, one son. References: Rev W.H. Schlinkmann, Rev. G. Steffen, Rev. Max Schultz.

Rev. Ronald E. Kehler, 200 Broad St., Ashland, Penna. Age 60. Schooling: Bloomsburg State Normal School, Susquehanna University, Bucknell University, Three-year course of Northeastern Association, Congregational Christian Churches. Ordained by the Congregational Christian Churches in 1936. Married, three daughters and one son. References: Rev. Melvin Walper, Rev. Herbert Ziegler.

Rev. Thomas Clayton Pexton, 10608 Shaker Boulevard, Cleveland 4, Ohio. Age 27. Schooling: Kent State University, Kent, Ohio, Oberlin Graduate School of Theology. Ordained by the Congregational Christian Churches in 1958. Not married. References: Dr. Stephen Szabo, Rev. Mathias Daroczy.

Rev. C. Paul Santa, 19671 Cleveland Road, South Bend, Ind. Age 46. Schooling: Wake Forest College, Wake Forest, N.C., Colgate Rochester Divinity School. Ordained by Northern Baptist Church in 1942. Installed Congregational 1949. Married. References: Dr. Meredith Sprunger, Dr. Edward W. Brueseke.

Rev. Ivey J. Shuff, 12 Homestead Avenue, Waterbury 4, Conn. Age 54. Schooling: Howard College, Birmingham, Ala., University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Penna., Crozer Theological Seminary, Chester, Penna. Ordained by the Southern Baptist Church in 1928. References: Dr. Paul Shumaker, Rev. A. Wilson Cheek, Dr. Charles R. Zweizig, Rev. Edward Schlingman.

Rev. David D. Van Strien, 96 Tappan Landing Road, Tarrytown, N.Y. Age 34. Schooling: Ursinus College, New Brunswick Theological Seminary, New Brunswick, N.J. Ordained by the Congregational Christian Churches in 1954. Not married. References: Dr. F. I. Sheeder, Rev. George MacNeal.

Rev. Donald Henry Voss, Box 171, Danville, Iowa. Age 30. Schooling: Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Mich., Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, Ill., Evangelical Seminary, Naperville, Ill. (and Eden Seminary for 1½ years). Ordained by the Congregational Christian Churches in 1955. Married, one child. References: Rev. H. Voss, Rev. Ernst Press.

Rev. Donald Oswell Press, 68 E. Bagley Road, Berea, Ohio. Age 43. Schooling: University of Michigan (2 years), Lucid Business College, Grand Rapids Mich.; Alma College, Alma,Mich.; Baldwin-Wallace College, Berea, Ohio, Andover Newton Theological School, Newton Centre, Mass. Ordained by the Congregational Christian Churches in 1956. Married, two children. References: Dr. E. G. Wiest, Rev. R. Raber.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF NEW MISSION HOUSE FACULTY MEMBER

Mr. Paul Hammer as Professor of New Testament to assume his duties with the beginning of the school year 1958-59. See paragraph in Dr. Wagner's report, page 26.

STAFF APPOINTMENTS APPROVED BY THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

The appointment of Miss Lael Henderson as full-time book editor for the Christian Education Press.

The appointment of the Rev. Melvin F. Ludwig to succeed Miss Henderson as editor of leadership education materials, with a salary of $4500 a year plus $1200 house allowance, his appointment to become effective September 1, 1958.

July 15, 1958

To the Council of the Evangelical and Reformed Church

Dear Fathers and Brethren:

Attached is a copy of the report of your committee, whose task it was to study the matter of establishing a formula on which allocations from the benevolent budget of the Church may be made to the educational institutions of the Church.

In preparation for its meetings the committee gathered material in the following categories:

1. The methods used by other church bodies for allocating support to their institutions of higher education.

2. A request to the head of each of the institutions of our church (E & R) to give us their best thoughts as to what they would consider an appropriate formula.

3. A request for certain pertinent financial information from the institutions of our church.

The Committee had two all-day meetings in Washington, D. C.: the first on November 12, 1957, and the second on April 15, 1958. It was not possible for all of the members to be present at both of the meetings, but this final report was submitted to all the members and it now comes to you with their complete endorsement.

When you have read the report, and unless you feel there is necessity for another meeting of the committee, we respectfully request that the committee be dismissed.

We all enjoyed our work on the committee and trust that the results of our deliberations will be helpful to the Council of our Church.

Sincerely,

Erwin H. Bode
Walter H. Brackin
W. Wilson Carvell
Harold F. Funk
Bob Schaad
Charles R. Zweizig
Theodore A. Distler (chairman)

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE EVANGELICAL AND REFORMED CHURCH APPOINTED TO ESTABLISH A FORMULA ON WHICH ALLOCATIONS FROM THE BENEVOLENT BUDGET OF THE CHURCH MAY BE MADE TO THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS OF THE CHURCH

It can truthfully be said that the beginnings of higher education in America owe their origins to the churches. Early in the history of our nation the churches, foreseeing the need for higher education, established colleges in the colonial settlements and continued to establish them as our population moved westward. Since colonial times the church-related college and Christian higher education have provided a leavening influence in all of American higher education and in our body politic far in excess of the numbers and size of these institutions. At a time when our population is growing so rapidly the need for Christian higher education is greater than ever, and therefore the churches ought not only consider the strengthening and expansion of their present institutions but to contemplate the establishment of new ones.

The church's first and foremost responsibility is the parish ministry. It is here in effect that the most important work of the church is carried on and the Christian Gospel and influence make their greatest impact.

Next to this prime function of the church the other responsibilities are on the same level: National missions, foreign missions, the institutions of the church. After the work of the parish the institutions of the church are just as important as any other activity in which the church engages. The failure to fully comprehend this fact on the part of some churches has weakened Christian higher education.

The boards of national missions of all our churches are tremendously concerned, and rightly so, with the establishment of new churches all over this land, so that our increasing population will find a suitable church home.

The churches generally speaking have not been as vigorous in strengthening their old institutions and in providing new ones so that the leavening of the loaf which these institutions provide should not be lessened in the years ahead.

It is the belief of your committee that our Church ought to consider its institutions of higher education together with the work of the several Boards and Agencies of the Church as being second in importance only to the parish ministry. With this idea in mind your committee set for itself six guiding principles in the establishment of a formula:

1. The weight of considerations motivating the maintaining of Christian higher education.

2. The weight which attaches to the service of young men and women of our constituency educated in our institutions.

3. The weight which attaches to the persons being served in actually preparing for the ministry or other full-time service in the Christian institutions.

4. The necessity of maintaining in church-related educational institutions a standard of quality which is competitive with that of other private institutions and of state-supported institutions.

5. The actual need of greater financial resources required by all of our schools.

6. The promotion of religious interest through the support given.

The committee early in its deliberations felt that the General Council ought to consider a separate policy for the support of the theological seminaries, to be determined by the General Council or the study committee on theological seminaries or some other designated committee. Your committee felt that the seminaries were in a class apart and their financial problems vis-a-vis the Church ought to be dealt with directly and not through the establishment of any formula. The committee therefore suggests that the seminaries' financial needs be made the direct concern of the Council itself, or some appropriate committee appointed by the Council.

Consistent with the guiding principles stated above, the committee recommends that allocations from the benevolent budget be made to the colleges in accordance with the following formula:

A. An appropriation of $25,000 to each college of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

B. 1. The sum of $40 per annum to each college for every full-time student in the student body of the college in the month of November preceding each year of the triennium.

2. A supplementary appropriation of $10 for each full-time student who is a member of the Evangelical and Reformed or the Congregational Christian Churches.

3. An additional supplementary appropriation of $100 to each college for each full-time pre-theological student or student preparing for any other full-time Christian vocation who is under the appropriate care and supervision of his own ecclesiastical body.

C. An appropriation of $40 to each college for every full-time faculty member to raise the level of faculty salaries.

Allocations to the academies are recommended as follows:

A. $12,500 to each academy of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

B. 1. $20 per annum to each academy for every full-time student in the student body in the month of November preceding each year of the triennium.

2. A supplementary appropriation of $10 for every Evangelical and Reformed or Congregational Christian student.

C. An appropriation of $40 to each academy for every full-time faculty member to raise the level of faculty salaries.

The factors in the proposed formula certainly indicate the concern of the Church for her church-related colleges and academies. These factors mark an awareness on the part of the Church of her responsibility for strengthening and supporting the educational institutions related to the Church by ties of history and faith.

While the Church would never assume that it was in her province to dictate to any of her related educational institutions, the Church still would wish to assert that the relationship between her and the educational institutions related to her life requires acceptance of responsibility by both Church and educational institutions which will serve to strengthen the impact of the Christian faith upon our culture. Surely each college and academy would desire to make a real effort, by all means within its power, to strengthen the influence of the Christian witness among its faculty, student body and in the community in which the institution is located. By so doing the colleges, and the academies, together with the Church, will become Christian leaven in our society which will spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. It would seem, therefore, that there should be some procedure, mutually agreed upon by competent representatives of the Church and the educational institutions, through which the educational institutions would strengthen and expand the Christian witness on the campus, classroom and community. It is hoped, therefore, that such procedures will be worked out as will indicate the desire on the part of the educational institutions to work hand in hand with the Church in bearing witness which will be soundly Christian. Unless such procedures would be followed it would be difficult to point to any unique Christian contribution which would be made by the educational institution which is now known as "church-related."

Furthermore, it is proposed that there be established by the General Council a permanent committee which would become responsible for regular consultation with all educational institutions and for continuous oversight of those matters which are set forth in the proposed formula for allocations to colleges and academies.

Such a committee would be charged with responsibility for reporting to the annual meeting of the General Council and would, in such a report, present appraisals of the relationships of the Church and the several educational institutions, proposals for strengthening this relationship on the part of the Church and these institutions, and statements concerning their financial needs. The work done by such a permanent committee would enable the General Council and the General Synod to act intelligently in all relationships with institutions of higher learning related to the life of the Church.

The above is respectfully submitted for your earnest consideration and adoption by your committee listed below.

Erwin H. Bode
Walter H. Brackin
W. Wilson Carvell
Harold F. Funk
Bob Schaad
Charles R. Zweizig
Theodore A. Distler (Chairman)

July 15, 1958

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE CHURCH'S RESPONSIBILITY TO THE MENTALLY ILL AND MENTALLY RETARDED

DIRECTIVE

The directive of the Acts and Proceedings of the Tenth Meeting of the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, (Item 13 of the Report of the Committee on Benevolent Institutions, page 394) reads as follows:

> "The General Synod instructs the General Council to appoint a committee to study the Church's responsibility in the care of the mentally ill and the mentally retarded."

PURPOSES

To examine the motivation for our Christian concern for the mentally ill and the mentally retarded.

To endeavor to find the Church's role of responsibility to the mentally ill and the mentally handicapped.

To learn to what degree the church-related institutions of the Evangelical and Reformed Church have cared for persons mentally ill and mentally retarded.

To secure factual evidence of need to face the nation's greatest single health problem.

To suggest specific ways in which the Church and its members may work toward better understanding of the problems in this area of concern and toward accepting responsibility to find solutions for them.

PROBLEM

The number of handicapped, inhibited, unhappy people, who cannot match themselves with life or become efficient personalities, constitutes the greatest single tragedy in the world today.

1. Ten million Americans - 1 in every 16 - are now suffering from some sort of mental disease.

2. Three-fourths of a million people are in mental hospitals constituting one-half of the bed patients in all hospitals in the entire country. Furthermore, it is estimated that emotional problems are an important factor in 50 to 70% of the medical cases treated by physicians.

3. 45% of average mental hospital patients are eventually discharged as improved or recovered. 70% of patients improve or recover at well-equipped and well-staffed mental hospitals.

4. "There are many patients remaining in mental hospitals today even tho they are recovered or improved sufficiently to leave. This is due to

   a. insufficient staff to examine them and process for discharge.

   b. families and communities will not accept them when discharged.

c. there are no boarding homes or other facilities in community to help them thru rehabilitation period. 60,000 such patients are estimated to now be in mental hospitals."

5. Only about 56% of the number of beds needed are available.

a. almost 72,000 beds are unacceptable in obsolete, deteriorated and sometimes condemned buildings.

b. 352,000 more beds are needed to relieve over-crowding and to replace unacceptable accommodations."

6. A committee of the American Psychiatric Association, which provides States with an inspection service upon request, has found the following:

a. of 124 mental hospitals that have been inspected, only 8 merited approval.

b. 31 merited conditional approval.

c. remainder which were not approved have not reached even the minimum standards of safety and quality.

7. Nearly all mental hospitals are grossly understaffed, thus patients are deprived of modern psychiatric treatment that would help them get well. State hospitals need:

a. twice as many doctors as they have.

b. five times as many graduate nurses.

c. four times as many social workers.

8. The entire psychiatric field is plagued by the lack of trained professional personnel. It is not only the mental hospital that needs more staff; clinics and training research programs are also suffering from a lack of personnel.

9. Three out of 100 children are destined to be mentally retarded. Every parent is vulnerable regardless of economic status, race, color or religion.

10. "Conservative estimate of total number of Americans directly concerned with the problem is 10,000,000 - the afflicted, their parents, brothers and sisters.

a. mental retardation is not a disease, it is a condition.

b. at least 70% known or suspected diseases or mishaps, occurring either before, during birth or in early childhood, are responsible for mental retardation.

c. regardless of cause and degree of handicap the retarded present one common characteristic - the need for special help during all or part of their lives in the struggle for survival."

d. The Dependent Group. One out of every 1,000 of our total population is so severely retarded as to require hour by hour supervision. As adults they will have the mental age of a 3 year old child.

e. The Semi-dependent Group. These make up four out of each 1000 population. These learn self-care, acceptable behavior, useful work - if properly schooled.

f. The Marginal Independent Group. This group can become self-supporting, good citizens - with special education, integrated recreation and social programs."

The above factual data gives evidence of the unmet needs in this tragic problem in this "land of abundance". We must admit that the complexities of living today are responsible to some degree for the immaturity and emotionally disturbed state of a large number of mentally ill persons.

The lack of spiritual training and insight has left thousands of adults and children in our nation without spiritual security. Today's children must be helped to find true spiritual security - - regardless of mental or physical handicaps.

RESPONSIBILITY

We believe that we must take rapid strides toward meeting this problem and we have ample support for our responsibility. In Jesus, God brought restoration to the alienated , revived faith in the storm-tossed, and peace to the vexed spirit. Through Him the sick and fearful were accepted and understood. Tolerance came to their twisted spirits, and responsive friendliness to their isolation.

Interest in the welfare of others has always been a distinguishing mark of the Christian faith. We are supported in this action by our confidence in the goodness of God and His desire, through Jesus Christ, to bring "wholeness of life" to each of His children. The Evangelical and Reformed Church has always expressed itself as having both head and heart and has through the years given evidence of this in the many and various benevolent institutions established by its concern.

Therefore, we have these responsibilities:

a. to be concerned.

b. to educate church members to the problem and the need.

c. to provide proper care and wholesome living for those mentally ill and mentally retarded who are not institutionalized.

d. to be concerned about proper facilities and a good care program for those who must be institutionalized.

e. for the denomination and local churches to recruit workers for our institutions and agencies working with the mentally retarded.

WHAT WE HAVE DONE AND ARE DOING

We have learned that our church has made only a small effort to cope with this distressing area of our life. This is because we have not been called upon to do it and have not felt equipped to handle it. Neither has any other denomination made more than a small impression on this problem. We are at the threshold of a new dimension in the church's ministry and we have taken only a small step toward it.

To be sure, custodial care is given mentally ill and mentally retarded persons at the Emmaus Homes at Marthasville and St. Charles, Missouri. A psychiatric ward was recently added to the Deaconess Hospital at St. Louis and other hospitals are

considering these facilities. Institutes on religion and health are arranged and encouraged by the commission on Church and Ministry and clinical training plus in-service training institutes are supported by this commission. Some of our churches are found to have arranged special classes for mentally retarded children and this subject is stressed in local meetings and area groups annually.

The Board of Christian Education is actively considering aids and materials for parents of handicapped children. The Commission on Church and Ministry continually encourages and supports ministers in further training and stresses its need through educational promotion. The importance of skilled chaplains in hospitals has been dramatized by the encouragement of both state and medical staff.

Most important of all, the church by its very nature, has always integrated the ill with the well, the weak with the strong, the handicapped with the normal. In this field, we have achieved that which society has not yet accomplished, treating every person in the Christian fellowship as a child of God, important and valuable in His sight.

WHAT WE CAN DO

We feel we must challenge ourselves to do these things:

1. Expect seminary students to have clinical experience and parish ministers to take in-service training.

2. Church councils and consistories should assist the minister in having this training, and provide classes for laymen in this field, that the handicapped will be accepted in the Christian fellowship.

3. Our denomination should encourage hospitals and homes to obtain well trained chaplains.

4. Our denomination should encourage hospitals and homes for the care and therapy of the mentally ill and mentally retarded. We should favor and act in the social and political field to secure the highest caliber of workers in state mental facilities and encourage a high professional climate for those who manage these institutions.

5. We must encourage and seek out opportunities for aid and assistance by local churches for volunteer help in hospitals and homes.

6. Our homes for the aged at present cannot provide facilities for the care of the mentally ill, nor should they. However, we believe General Synod should encourage and assist the leadership of these homes to set aside and offer care for our people who are senile.

7. We believe that General Synod should aid and assist some of our childrens homes in transferring the use of their facilities to the care and assistance of mentally retarded and emotionally disturbed children.

8. We must expect our local churches to provide facilities for religious education and week-day schools for the mentally retarded.

We realize that this is a new area of effort to which we bring our poor skills, our limited understanding and our scant means. Nevertheless, as Christians we have never undertaken any project with sufficient funds, capable know-how, or full definition. Our sole motivation is the total committment we have in Christ whose life and ministry is the structure of all true benevolent and health

restoring efforts.

Committee: Mr. Samuel C. Bond, Jr., Allentown, Pa., Chairman; Mrs. Milton C. Lang, Baltimore, Maryland; Rev. Emil N. Krafft, Cleveland, Ohio; Rev. Paul E. Irion, St. Louis, Missouri; Rev. Merl Schiffman, Elmhurst, Illinois; Rev. Harold P. Schultz, St. Louis, Missouri; Rev. John G. Ruhl, Marthasville, Missouri; Rev. Herman A. Fenske, Buffalo, New York and Rev. Garnet O. Adams, Womelsdorf, Pennsylvania.

September 16, 1958

To: The General Council of the Evangelical and Reformed Church

From: The Committee to Study the Future of the Deaconess Order
Mrs. E. Roy Corman, Rev. Beatrice Weaver McConnell, Mr. Henry W. Kleber, Rev. Robert T. Fauth, Rev. Charles W. Schwantes, Rev. Paul E. Irion, Rev. Carl C. Rasche, Chairman
Advisors: Sister Frieda Ziegler, Executive Deaconess
Sister Pauline Becker, Field Representative

The report of the Committee to Study the Future of the Deaconess Order is based on the following affirmations:

1. We affirm that the consecrated Deaconess should be related to the Church as a Commissioned Worker, commissioned by her local Synod, giving her constitutional status in the Church. This would supersede the present concept where the Deaconess has no direct vocational relationship with the Church but is related solely to the agency in which she serves.

2. We affirm that the Deaconess Commissioned Worker should serve professionally in the health and welfare work of the Church as a member of the Deaconess Association. This would in no way infringe upon the organization of other professional groups (such as in the areas of Christian education, etc.) under the Commissioned Worker concept.

3. We affirm that the structural organization of Deaconess work should be related to the structure of the Evangelical and Reformed Church through the Commission on Benevolent Institutions.

4. We affirm that it would be expeditious for the Deaconesses of the several existing Deaconess Sisterhoods to join together in the Deaconess Association. This would put them under a common organizational administration. However, it is also affirmed that this should in no sense alter the lifetime care commitments which any agency has to the present Deaconesses in its sisterhood. Deaconesses consecrated and commissioned after 1959 would automatically enter under the new plan.

5. We affirm that certain changes are necessary in the present concept of Deaconess work to make the position of the Deaconess more in keeping with the aspirations and expectations of potential recruits. These major revisions include:

   a. The Deaconess should have full-time employment in an Evangelical and Reformed Church agency and receive full compensation for her services according to the professional salary scale of the agency. She should be responsible for her own maintenance and lifetime care.

b. The Deaconess may continue her status when married if doing full-time service.

c. The Deaconess shall be eligible to apply for a leave of absence for one-year periods. In no case shall a leave of absence be granted for more than three consecutive years. Thereafter the Deaconess shall resume her service in an Evangelical and Reformed Church agency, or Synod shall remove her name from the roll of commissioned workers.

d. Deaconesses should be recruited for all professional positions in the health and welfare field. Professional standards would be kept high by requiring a minimum of three years college or equivalent professional training.

e. The applicant for becoming a Deaconess Commissioned Worker should secure her own professional training. She will then be required to take three months of specialized religious training to be offered by the Church before commissioning.

6. We affirm that with these revisions of structure and concept the position of Deaconess Commissioned Worker can offer an avenue for competent, consecrated service in church-related health and welfare agencies, bringing the Deaconess into a vital vocational relationship to the church and meeting a deep personal need for commitment.

EXPLANATION OF THE

DIAGRAM OF DEACONESS ORGANIZATION

The Diagram of Deaconess Organization (See Appendix I) is based on Part IV "Commissioned Workers" of the Constitution and By-Laws of the Evangelical and Reformed Church as amended by the General Synod in September, 1956 (See Appendix II). The appointed study committee has been informed that other groups, and notably the Directors of Christian Education, are vitally interested in clarifying their relationship to the Church as commissioned workers. It is conceivable that the Directors of Christian Education would have an organization under the "umbrella" of Part IV of the Constitution. Likewise, deaconesses, ministers of music, parish workers, teachers in church-related schools, and medical and agricultural missionaries might also have their specific organizations under the same "umbrella".

Pursuing this thought further, it is deemed advisable that the Deaconess Order should not seek to encompass all fields, but rather be limited to the health and welfare field. In this way, the professional skills related to the work of health and welfare agencies would be germane to the Commission on Benevolent Institutions through which Deaconesses belonging to a Deaconess Association would have organizational relationship to the Church.

The following is offered as an expansion of and/or explanation of certain concepts contained in the Diagram of Deaconess Organization.

I. Evangelical and Reformed Church (United Church of Christ) was used in preference to United Church of Christ alone. Since the study committee was appointed by the General Council of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and since the committee was not informed about all practices of the Congregational Christian Churches, it was deemed advisable to limit its concern to the relationship of Deaconesses to the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

II. The Commission on Benevolent Institutions is designated as the proper established commission through which the Deaconesses as members of the Deaconess Association should be organizationally related to the Church, since the C.O.B.I. is unique in its relationship to the health and welfare concerns of the Church.

III. The Committee on Deaconess Service should be composed of elected representatives of the Commission on Benevolent Institutions and the Deaconess Association.

A. The applicant for commissioning as a Deaconess and for membership in the Deaconess Association should apply first to the Committee on Deaconess Service for membership in the Deaconess Association. When approved, the applicant should then apply for commissioning as a Deaconess to the Committee on Church and Ministry of the Synod of which she is a member. Recommendation for consecration shall be given with the approval of the President of the Church. The Committee on

Church and Ministry of any given Synod should not recommend that an applicant be commissioned as a Deaconess without having prior approval to that effect by the Committee on Deaconess Service. In this way the Committee on Deaconess Service will set standards and terms for the admission of Deaconesses to the Deaconess Association and for their being commissioned as Deaconesses.

B. The Committee on Deaconess Service should have responsibilities for recruitment, screening of applicants for admission to the Deaconess Association and placement counseling. The responsibility for recruitment will be shared with the Committee on Life Enlistment of the Commission on Church and Ministry.

IV. The Deaconess Association should be composed entirely of members commissioned as Deaconesses by Synods.

A. Terms of membership should include the following:

1. Full-time employment in an Evangelical and Reformed Church agency with full compensation and allied benefits for her services is required. The Deaconess shall be responsible for her own maintenance and lifetime care.

2. Educational requirements: three years college, graduation from an accredited nursing school, or equivalent are considered to be minimal. For example, an x-ray technician who has spent two years in receiving her certification should have at least one year of college training. The Deaconess applicant training to be a social worker, medical record librarian, or dietitian, etc., will need to fulfill the educational requirements within her particular profession before being commissioned as a Deaconess.

3. Good physical and emotional health will have to be attested to by a qualified physician.

4. Good character references should be furnished by those acquainted with the applicant through the Church, educational institutions and community enterprises.

5. Membership in the Evangelical and Reformed Church is implied in eligibility requirements for commissioning by Synod.

6. Two months specialized and concentrated religious training prior to commissioning is a necessary term of membership. It is conceived that classes might be offered on a quarterly basis at the Voluntary Service Training Center at Pottstown, Pennsylvania, at one of the seminaries or colleges, or at one of the health and welfare agencies. The course of study must be approved by the Committee on Deaconess Service.

7. The Deaconess may continue her membership in the Deaconess Association when married, if she is doing full-time service in an Evangelical and Reformed Church agency.

8. The Deaconess shall be eligible to apply for a leave of absence for one-year periods. In no case shall a leave of absence be granted for more than three consecutive years. Thereafter the Deaconess shall resume her service in an Evangelical and Reformed Church agency or Synod shall remove her name from the roll of commissioned workers.

B. The benefits of being a Deaconess will include:

1. The Deaconess will have a meaningful vocational relationship to the Church. This is not to say that meaningful vocations cannot be had by non-Deaconesses nor that these vocations cannot be in significant relationship to the Church. It is to say, however, that the Deaconess will concentrate her vocation in health and welfare agencies related to the Evangelical and Reformed Church. Because of her intimate association with and knowledge of the Church, she will be encouraged to make her vocation and service increasingly significant. At the same time, she will bring to her vocation the additional Christian service incentive reflecting the premises of the rite of commissioning and, therefore, possibly offer those persons served a better service.

2. She will have professional status in the Church through being commissioned as a Deaconess. Her membership and status as a Deaconess Commissioned Worker in the Evangelical and Reformed Church will be through a local congregation of a Synod, but as a member of the Deaconess Association an additional recognition of her status will be given by the Church. It is understood that the term "Sister" will not need to be used. Rather, when referring to a Deaconess, she can be addressed in writing as "Miss" or "Mrs." with the term "Deaconess" following her name.

3. The Deaconess will be invited to participate in the annual meeting of the Deaconess Association.

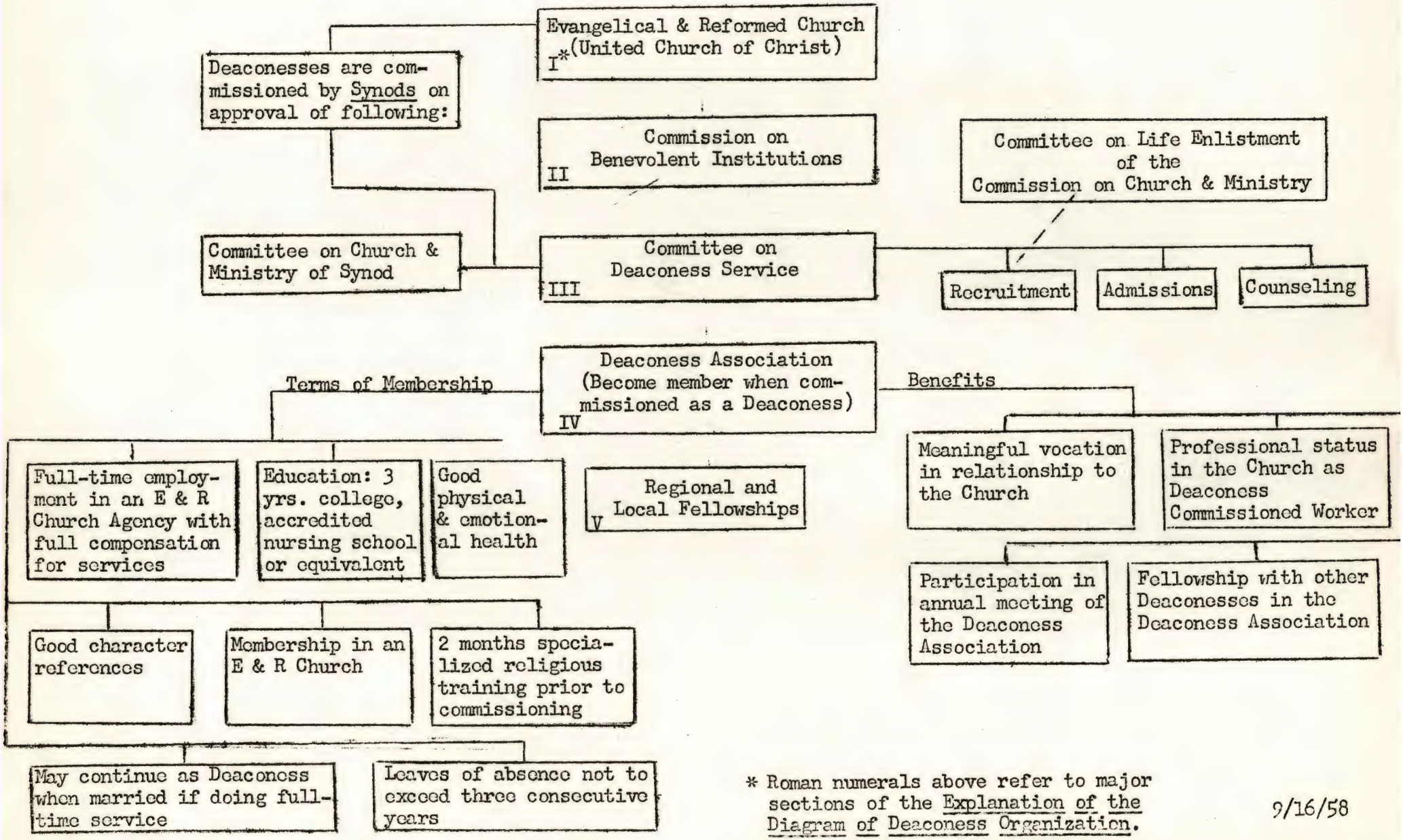
4. Fellowship with other Deaconesses in the Deaconess Association will be a real asset. It will provide an opportunity for Deaconesses to share with one another and give them a sense of belonging to a group that is very significant.

V. Regional and local fellowships of the Deaconess Association will afford greater opportunity for Deaconesses working in common areas to have fellowship on a continued basis in addition to the fellowship afforded at the annual meeting of the Deaconess Association.

Note: Proposal for integration of present Deaconesses into the Deaconess Association is described in Appendix III.

9/16/58

DIAGRAM OF DEACONESS ORGANIZATION


Evangelical & Reformed Church
I*(United Church of Christ)
Deaconesses are commissioned by Synods on approval of following:
Commission on Benevolent Institutions
II
Committee on Life Enlistment of the Commission on Church & Ministry
Committee on Church & Ministry of Synod
Committee on Deaconess Service
III
Recruitment
Admissions
Counseling
Deaconess Association (Become member when commissioned as a Deaconess)
IV
Terms of Membership
Benefits
Full-time employment in an E & R Church Agency with full compensation for services
Education: 3 yrs. college, accredited nursing school or equivalent
Good physical & emotional health
Regional and Local Fellowships
V
Meaningful vocation in relationship to the Church
Professional status in the Church as Deaconess Commissioned Worker
Participation in annual meeting of the Deaconess Association
Fellowship with other Deaconesses in the Deaconess Association
Good character references
Membership in an E & R Church
2 months specialized religious training prior to commissioning
May continue as Deaconess when married if doing full-time service
Leaves of absence not to exceed three consecutive years

* Roman numerals above refer to major sections of the Explanation of the Diagram of Deaconess Organization.

9/16/58

APPENDIX II

COMMISSIONED WORKERS

A commissioned worker is a member of the Church who has been set apart and consecrated by a Synod for full-time service for a special ministry. This service may be rendered in a local congregation, in the mission fields of the Church, through one of the administrative agencies of the Church, or in one of the benevolent or educational institutions of the Church. Those eligible for commissioning shall include directors of Christian education, deaconesses, parish workers, ministers of music, teachers in Church-related schools, medical and agricultural missionaries, and others called to similar special ministries.

A commissioned worker shall have adequate training for his specific ministry in a school recognized by the Evangelical and Reformed Church. Normally this shall consist of at least one year of formal training beyond the college degree. The Committee on Church and Ministry of the Synod shall determine the qualifications of the worker and shall, with the approval of the President of the Church, recommend his consecration.

A commissioned worker shall devote himself to his ministry and shall avoid any unrelated avocation that would impair his service to the Church.

A commissioned worker shall have full status as a member of a local congregation. In addition, he shall be listed on the roll of his Synod as a commissioned worker, shall be eligible to serve on standing committees of the Synod, and shall be accorded voice but not vote in the proceedings of the Synod.

A commissioned worker who takes up some other calling shall resign or apply to the Synod for a leave of absence for one-year periods. In no case shall leave of absence be granted for more than three consecutive years. Thereafter, the worker shall resume his ministry in the Church or the Synod shall remove his name from the roll of commissioned workers.

From the Constitution and By-Laws of the Evangelical and Reformed Church

Amended by the General Synod, September, 1956

APPENDIX III

PROPOSAL FOR INTEGRATION OF PRESENT DEACONESSES INTO THE DEACONESS ASSOCIATION

1. The present Deaconess shall have the right to participate in the new program by applying to Synod for commissioning as a Deaconess and thereby becoming a member of the Deaconess Association.

2. The commissioning of the present Deaconess shall not affect the lifetime care commitment of the agency to the Deaconess. This is to say that the present Deaconess shall be eligible to participate in the activities and benefits of the Deaconess Association without interference with her professional and financial relationship to the agency with which she is associated.

3. The present Deaconess must apply to become a Deaconess Commissioned Worker. Without such application no action will be taken which would affect her present status.

4. If the present Deaconess wishes to be a Deaconess Commissioned Worker under the new terms of membership (i.e., full compensation for services or marriage), she shall, in addition to making application for commissioning to the Committee on Deaconess Service and to Synod, resign from her present Sisterhood.

5. Retired Deaconesses will not be commissioned but will, upon request, be granted honorary membership in the Deaconess Association.

9/16/58

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE TO STUDY THE RELATIONSHIP OF OUR HOSPITALS TO THE CHURCH

Sensing a need to relate the hospitals which have been founded and governed by people of the Evangelical and Reformed Church more closely to the church, the General Synod meeting in 1956 appointed a special study committee to consider this relationship. The request for the formation of this committee came to the General Synod from the Commission on Benevolent Institutions.

Appointed to the committee were: Rev. Albert G. Gonser of Christ Church, Milwaukee, Wis., chairman, Rev. Carl H. Grathwohl, Administrator of the Evangelical Deaconess Hospital in Detroit, Mich., Rev. Albert H. Schmeuszer, Administrator of the Evangelical Deaconess Hospital in Milwaukee, Wis., Dr. Albert G. Hahn, Administrator of the Protestant Deaconess Hospital in Evansville, Ind., Rev. Harold C. Baer, Norristown, Penna., Mrs. Hugo Schuessler, Evansville, Ind., Chaplain Paul E. Irion, Evangelical Deaconess Hospital, St. Louis.

At the second meeting of the committee, Chaplain Carl J. Scherzer of Evansville, Indiana, former president of the Commission on Benevolent Institutions, was enlisted for service on the committee.

Although many of the items which were discussed by this committee are applicable to all of the health and welfare agencies of the church, the committee deliberately limited itself to consideration of the particular problem of relating our hospitals more closely to the church. This is in no wise an indication that the committee does not recognize similar problems of relationship which exist for other agencies of the church. But by definition the committee was to study only hospital-church relationships.

The Motivation for the Church Related Hospital

It is our conviction that the hospital work of the church has as its primary motivation the direction and impetus of Christian love. The basis of our work in the church-related hospital is found in the teaching and example of Jesus Christ. The inspiration and authority not only for founding hospitals but also for the whole field of Christian welfare is explicit in the Christian Gospel. "The church received its interest in the healing arts from Jesus. He not only healed the sick, but, more important, taught love, kindness, consideration and other virtues which may be summed up in the word 'compassion.' This compassion in the lives of His followers impelled them to be interested in the sick and the suffering. Jesus as their Lord did what he could to relieve the sick, they, too, would help all in trouble." (Carl J. Scherzer, The Church and Healing, page 29f).

From the early work of the deacons of the church in carrying on a ministry to the sick and the needy, from the preservation in the church of medical knowledge, although primitive, through the dark ages, from the hospices which were established at the time of the Crusades, to the present day church-related hospital, the church has continued its concern for a healing ministry.

A new interest is manifesting itself in the church and in the church-related hospital. This is not only a matter of reaching out in Christian charity to bind up the wounds and to heal the diseases of the injured and the sick -- this is a tangible demonstration of the church's concern for the whole

man. Contemporary psychosomatic medicine has demonstrated effectively that the total man requires treatment. The church cannot be satisfied with providing a building in which the medical profession practices its healing art. At this point the church should see its mission as sharing in the work of treating and healing all of the patient -- body, mind and spirit. The witness of Christian love which is seen in physical care will help to heal rifts in the emotions and to awaken the spirit of the patient.

Since the time of Hippocrates many have felt that religion and medicine should go their separate ways, yet no matter how much effort was made to keep the two apart it could not be done. The day has come when even secularly oriented institutions sponsored by the government have chaplaincies, recognized as parts of the healing team, to serve the spiritual and emotional needs of their patients. Christianity and medicine can and should work together for the benefit of the patient.

The History of Hospitals in the Evangelical and Reformed Church

All ten of the hospitals now affiliated with the Evangelical and Reformed Church were founded during a period of 34 years, from 1889 to 1923. With the current exceptions of the Methodist Evangelical Hospital of Louisville, Kentucky, and the proposed Christ Community Hospital in Chicago, no hospital has been founded by our people during the last 35 years.

In fact during this time several hospitals have been lost to the church for a variety of reasons. For example, with the exception of a few devoted people no one seemed to care when our interests as Evangelical and Reformed people were forfeited in the Deaconess Hospital of Cincinnati, Ohio, and in East St. Louis, Illinois. Other institutions, yielding to the pressures created by the apathy of the church as a whole, have been more and more oriented toward the secular communities in which they serve. These institutions still function effectively as agencies of healing but their primary connection to the church is substantially, if not completely dissolved and something of the Christian heritage of the institution is lost.

Problems of Church Hospital Relationships in the Evangelical and Reformed Church

1. The pattern for establishing health and welfare agencies in the heritage of our church has been primarily one of local sponsorship and support. While hospitals of the church now have an integral connection with the denomination through the Commission on Benevolent Institutions, ownership is still vested in local societies made up of a majority of Evangelical and Reformed people, and management of the institution is governed by the regulations of their local society.

The problem arises when an institution for one reason or another fails to secure the necessary support from this local church-society. Its only option for survival then is to place itself under the management of the secular community in which it exists, quite apart from church relatedness.

Thus a very real part of the problem of weakness of relationship is inherent in the basic structure of our church-related hospitals.

2. The tie between denomination and hospital is deprived of strength because it lacks any element of direct support from the denomination. This is true of both financial support and direct concern for the management of the institution. In many instances this has rendered the church helpless when an institution faced a period of crisis. This structural lack of concern and support by the church has been the reason for the loss of our interests in several institutions. There is at present no basis on which the church can contribute to the support of one of our hospitals in a period of economic crisis or invest in capital improvements in such an institution. Constitutionally then, the relation of our hospitals to the church is nominal.

3. A third primary area is seen in the lack of coordination of the efforts of the church where there is opportunity for the establishment of new church-related hospitals. Unless there is sufficient impetus in a local situation and sufficient dedication in a local group to carry the entire load by itself the founding of hospitals in the name of the church is impossible.

Still another situation is occurring repeatedly. Community hospitals in areas outlying the metropolitan centers in which many of our hospitals are located have often appealed to our hospitals to take over the management of these smaller institutions. However,we do not have the trained personnel available who can or will go into a new situation and operate a hospital. In some instances no financial help beyond a token contribution is requested for such a venture. It is primarily a matter of providing key personnel. Experience has demonstrated again and again that when such a situation arises Roman Catholic orders are ready with financial resources and trained personnel. More than one instance can be cited where community hospitals in small cities were offered to several Protestant denominations and finally were given to the Roman Catholic Church. This situation has been repeated until today the Roman Catholic Church has more hospitals in our nation than all other denominations combined.

As a denomination we have no financial resources available with which to make even a token contribution that might cause a hospital to affiliate with our church. This committee is now aware of a number of such opportunities. In these particular instances a pattern of development is pretty well established. The hospitals will be community institutions until staff or financial difficulties arise and then the community will be relieved to turn them over to Roman Catholic nursing orders.

4. One of the first steps in the loss of church-relatedness has been the loss of control and management by Evangelical and Reformed people. The Commission on Benevolent Institutions has followed the pattern of admitting to the full membership only those agencies which have two-thirds of their Board of Directors members of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. This study committee reaffirms the present policy and views with disfavor the current proposal to reduce this majority to one more than half. This is not a matter of retaining a selfish monopolistic interest. This is a program for retaining a potent outlet for the concern of the church for the sick and the distressed. To sacrifice control of our agencies means that one more great humanitarian function is surrendered by the church to the field of secular public welfare.

5. Related to a number of the problems mentioned above is the great need for recruitment of individuals for Christian vocations in the health and welfare field. It is deemed absolutely essential that a spirit of Christian

dedication prevail in our institutions of healing. As professional standards are raised continually in such areas as chaplaincy, administration, nursing, X-ray and medical technology, medical social service, and the like, men and women of the church should be increasingly challenged to train themselves to the highest degree of professional competence in these fields.

Undoubtedly it is impossible for any of our educational institutions to set up an adequate training program for hospital administrators. Our theological education is already offering opportunities for men who wish to prepare themselves as hospital chaplains. At least two of our colleges (Cedar Crest and Hood) have courses in dietetics and institutional management which lead after an internship to food management work in hospitals. At least three of our colleges (Cedar Crest, Lakeland and Heidelberg) provide training in medical technology. One of our colleges (Heidelberg) provides a course in pre-therapy. Others of our schools offer courses in pre-nursing or combined courses give a Bachelor of Science in nursing education.

Proposals

1. The life enlistment program of the church should certainly contain a strong appeal for young men and young women to enter the health and welfare field of service, providing the necessary staff for our expanding institutions. There has not been an adequate job of pointing up vocations in church-related hospitals as vocations in the church. Most readily available recruitment literature does not give any kind of satisfactory listing of the possibilities of vocations in this field. John Oliver Nelson's "Protestant Religion Vocations", except for the vocation of institutional chaplain, makes no mention of any other vocation in a church-related hospital as being a church vocation. The article in the January 1957 issue of The International Journal on "College Majors and Church Careers" does suggest how certain majors provide training for certain vocations in church-related hospitals. Undoubtedly a great deal more promotional information is necessary.

2. A forward step would be taken by denominational recognition of our several approved schools of nursing, X-ray technology, medical technology, and the like, as institutions of higher learning of the church in our church-related hospitals. This would enable denominational promotion of these professions and would strengthen the position of seeing these avenues of service as a Christian vocation.

3. In addition to this the church should undertake a financial subsidy of these professional schools in our hospitals. A precedent already exists in the subsidies which are granted to other recognized institutions of higher learning of the church. Schools of nursing operate without endowment funds, the costs are met from the general operating funds of the hospital and are paid indirectly by the patients whom the hospital serves. Funds that are invested by the hospital in the schools of nursing and related technical professions could easily be diverted to pay for augmented care of the medically indigent patient. It is felt that in this way the church could be undertaking a financial responsibility for some of the work of the hospital without substantially reducing the opportunity for the direct appeal of the hospital to its local constituency for capital fund campaigns, etc.

4. Efforts should be made to bring to the attention of the church its moral responsibility for the care of the medically indigent patients in our

church-related hospitals. (The term medically indigent is applied to those who may not be destitute, but whose financial resources are not at all sufficient to meet the cost of prolonged illness.) Just as funds are contributed for the care and education of unfortunate people around the world, so too funds could be raised in the church to assist the hospital in the care of such individuals who are unable to pay for such care, either totally or in part. Rising costs make this program more necessary each year. The possibility of a denomination-wide Hospital Sunday in which churches throughout the denomination would contribute a special offering to this cause is suggested. These funds would be distributed to the respective institutions by the treasurer of the denomination according to a pre-established formula.

5. We further propose that a pattern be established for bringing special need situations of our hospitals to the attention of the church through the General Council and General Synod. If the church were aware of the special needs of particular institutions, it might be prepared to lend sufficient backing to the Board of Directors in meeting such crises.

6. In order to coordinate and initiate the many activities which are indicated by the above recounting of problems facing our church-related hospitals, the appointment of an executive secretary of the Commission on Benevolent Institutions becomes an absolute necessity. To carry on the activities which are necessary for the development and sustaining of the many aspects of this program is an utter impossibility on a part-time basis. A full-time executive secretary well versed in the problems which confront church-related hospitals would be in a position to give guidance to institutions who sense a trend to the weakening or dissolution of their church relatedness. He could assist in the development of a more strongly coordinated church backing for institutions that are faced with problems. He could help coordinate the backing of the church for the founding of new institutions and the assumption of management responsibilities for institutions which are regularly being offered to the church. He could help to promote the recruitment for Christian vocation in the health and welfare fields.

MEMORANDUM

Re: A Denominational Policy Regarding Bequests, Annuity Agreements, Life Income Contracts.

To: The Committee on Correlation and Promotion.

In 1956, General Council assigned responsibility for a program of education in the writing of Christian Wills to the Commission on Stewardship. It was conceived that the educational program would be an on-going program rather than a one-time high-pressure campaign. It was also understood that the Commission would undergird and strengthen the efforts of the various agencies of the denomination in soliciting bequests and in no way assume or interfer with their prerogatives in this field.

In the intervening years, the Department of Stewardship and Benevolence of the National Council of Churches has sponsored a series of national conferences on Wills and Philanthropy and has stimulated considerable interest in this field among the churches.

The Commission on Stewardship has sought to be faithful to the assignment given by General Council. But again and again, and more and more, it appears that any educational or promotional program on the making of Christian Wills soon involves some very practical problems. Potential donors ask questions and seek help. Who is to counsel them? To undergird the efforts of the Boards, colleges, and benevolent institutions and other agencies, of necessity, implies that information on what the various agencies are doing be gathered. But there is no central agency that gathers this information and acts as a clearing house for all of them.

When an article on "New Patterns in Giving" appeared in the Messenger - an article that was conceived as part of the educational program on the Wills Emphasis - a number of inquiries were made. One widow who described herself as a reader of the Messenger wrote: "I have a bond maturing in September ... and I would like to give it to the Synod or Church of Christ or what would you call it."

Another woman inquired: "Would the Board of International Missions accept securities, and pay an income for life, and how much would the rate of interest be for a person 72 years of age?"

Dr. T. K. Thompson, Executive Director of the Department of Stewardship and Benevolence of the National Council of Churches responded to the article by saying: "I am hoping that the Evangelical and Reformed Church may do a great deal more in the field of large individual gifts than has been characteristic of this communion in the past few years. Of course, individual institutions have been active, but I believe the denomination as a whole has been somewhat behind other communions."

It is this program for the "denomination as a whole" that is our present concern. It may be that the time has come when as a denomination we need to take another look at what is happening in this area and formulate an approach that more adequately meets the needs of our constituency.

The experience of the United Lutheran Church and the Presbyterian Church with Foundations may be helpful at this point.

In 1957, the United Lutheran Church in America set up a Foundation with broad responsibility for promoting, stimulating, soliciting and receiving gifts of all kinds from individuals or corporate donors for any and all phases of the church's work. The Foundation is to encourage the making of wills and is authorized to enter into gift annuity agreements, life income contracts and trust agreements under which the church or its parts may become the actual or contingent beneficiary. The Foundation was established in order to provide new and special services to the Boards and agencies of the church, and to people who were seeking trained counsel and assistance in planning the wisest use and distribution of their estates. This means that the Foundation serves the United Lutheran Church, its boards, agencies and auxiliaries. It also serves the Synods of the United Lutheran Church of America, their congregations, colleges, seminaries, and other institutions. The Foundation is established as one of the departments of the church and not as a separate corporation. The affairs of the Foundation are administered by a Directing Committee of twelve (12) members. They act under authority granted them by the Executive Board of the United Lutheran Church of America. Ten laymen and two clergymen comprise the committee.

The Presbyterian Church has had "The Presbyterian Foundation" for many years. It has two main functions - the encouragement of gifts for the church's endowment fund and the management of that fund. The endowment fund is a permanent fund where the money is invested and made to produce income.

The Foundation accepts two kinds of gifts. One is the unrestricted gift where the donor does not specify the uses to which the money will be put. Each General Assembly decides where the earnings on that money will do the most good. The other kind of gift is for a specific purpose. The Foundation manages the gifts in accord with the wishes of the donor. Gifts can be made for the benefit of a local church, or any of the agencies of the denomination.

The funds are invested by a Finance Committee whose members serve on the Foundation's Board of Trustees and have a great deal of experience in banking, finance and investments.

In the light of the experiences of other denominations and in view of the needs of our own denomination, it is suggested that the General Council propose to General Synod a plan for the establishment of a Foundation for the Evangelical and Reformed Church for the purpose of promoting, stimulating, soliciting and receiving gifts of all kinds from individuals and corporate donors for any and all phases of the church's work, and that the Foundation be responsible for the investment and management of the funds assigned to them, and that a committee of competent people in the field of banking and investment be assigned the management of the affairs of the Foundation.

It is recognized that, the establishment of such a Foundation would bring into review the practices and policies of all the agencies of the church that have been active in the field of annuity agreements, bequests and life income agreements, and that the place of the present Board of Investments would be taken into consideration.

Prepared by
Paul E. Strauch
July, 1958

MIDWEST SYNOD REPORT ON COMBINED COMMITTEES

At the time of the merger of the Nebraska and the Iowa Synods to form the Midwest Synod the Committee in charge of making the arrangements for this merger also undertook to do some streamlining of Committees of Synod. There were a number of reasons for making this attempt:

1. A number of the Committees of Synod had so little business to do that they never met and were committees in name only.
2. The great distances involved in Committee meetings in a Synod as large as Midwest Synod also made meetings of Committees rather infrequent and therefore ineffective. Attendance at the Committee meetings was also poor.
3. Because of great travel distances expenses for Committee meetings were high too and it would seem to be of an advantage to consolidate committees and thus cut down on travel expenses.

Therefore, the Planning Committee suggested to the joint Synods that Standing Committees of Synod be combined to form five Standing Committees as follows:

1. A Church and Ministry Committee of nine members, plus the President of Synod. This Committee would have all the functions assigned to it by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.
2. The Committee on United Promotion. This Committee would have nine members. In addition to responsibilities assigned to it in the Constitution and Bylaws for United Promotion, this Committee would also have the responsibility for promotion for World Service, for Stewardship and for Visual-Aids. There would be a Chairman for this Committee who would be responsible for United Promotion. There would be a Sub-Chairman on World Service, another Sub-Chairman on Stewardship and another Sub-Chairman on Visual-Aids.
3. A Missions Committee made up of nine members. This Committee would have responsibility for National Missions, for Rural Church, for International Missions and also for the Synod Missions Club. This Committee was organized as follows: a General Chairman, a Sub-Chairman for National Missions in the Nebraska area, a Sub-Chairman for National Missions in the Iowa area, a Sub-Chairman for Rural Church, a Sub-Chairman on International Missions and a Mission Club Treasurer.
4. A Committee on Christian Action. This Committee is made up of six members having responsibility for Social Actions, for Pensions and Relief, for Evangelism and for the Synod Pension Club. This Committee would have a General Chairman, a Sub-Chairman on Social Action, a Sub-Chairman on Pensions and a Sub-Chairman on Evangelism.
5. The Committee on Christian Education. This Committee would have twelve members. It would have the responsibilities assigned to it by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. It is organized as follows: a General Chairman, a Sub-Chairman on Camps and Conferences, a Sub-Chairman on Children's Work, and a Sub-Chairman on Missionary Education, a Sub-Chairman on Campus Ministry, a Sub-Chairman on Youth Work and a Sub-Chairman on Adult Work.

It was our suggestion to these Committees that they work in the following way: Each Committee was to meet at least once a year. The Committees as a whole were to set policy for all of the areas which were the responsibility of that Committee. Then the administration of that policy was to be given over to the Sub-Chairmen in the various fields covered. To illustrate; the Missions Committee has a General Chairman who conducts the meeting of the Missions Committee at least once a year. This Committee, of course, meets more than once a year. At this meeting all members of the Committee discuss and set the policy for the various areas of responsibility. Then the Sub-Chairman in National Missions carries out that policy in his area. The Rural Church man carries out the policy set by the Committee in this field. The Chairman for International Missions carries on his responsibility and the

Mission Club Treasurer his. So we have a large Committee of nine members setting policy in these various fields and then the Sub-Chairmen carrying out the policy. A year's experience with this plan has shown that our judgments were right in some respects. At least the Committees met and some thought was given to each area of responsibility. Some of the Committees met more than once. The work of the denomination is being carried on by the Sub-Chairmen in their field of responsibility.

It is our feeling that this arrangement, though technically un-constitutional, is actually not going against the Constitution of the Evangelical and Reformed Church for the following reasons:

1. Each area which is supposed to be represented by a committee on the Synod level is represented at least by a Sub-Chairman.
2. In each case our committees are large enough in membership so that actually we are meeting the requirements of the Constitution as to committees. For example; the Action Committee has nine members. We could designate three of those men with their Chairman as the Social Action Committee, three of them as the Pensions and Relief Committee and three of them as the Evangelism Committee, thus meeting the requirements of the Constitution.

If the above arrangement represents constitutional difficulties we could probably resolve the difficulty by setting up committees as required by the Constitution and Bylaws of the Church and then simply state that the Committee on United Promotion would be made up of three men, plus the members of the World Service Committee, the Stewardship Committee and the Visual-Aids Committee as an example, or that the National Missions Committee would be made up of three men, plus the members of the International Missions Committee three more men and a Rural Church Committee three more men. Our year's experience with the committees has shown that it works out well. The committees have met and all areas of concern have been considered. On making our reports to the various boards and agencies who desire to know who the Chairman of their corresponding committee is we send them the name of the Sub-Chairman whose responsibility it is to promote the work of that particular board or agency.

Since the General Council will be meeting in Burlington when it is discussing this matter, I shall be happy to appear personally before the Council if they have any questions that they want to ask.

Respectfully submitted,

(Sgd.) Ernst Press

Ernst Press,
President of Midwest Synod

SUMMARY REPORT OF CONFERENCE WITH

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE MAGYAR SYNOD

Pursuant to a directive of General Council a conference was held at Cleveland, Ohio, on Friday, April 11, 1958 between members of the Synodical Council of the Magyar Synod, representatives of the General Council, and others, the following being present: the Rev. Stephen M. Boszormenyi-Bessemer, president of the Magyar Synod, the Rev. Arpad George, vice-president, Mr. Joseph Fodor, lay member, the Rev. John Butosi, the Rev. Andrew Harto, the Rev. Dr. Alexander Toth; and the Rev. Dr. Sheldon E. Mackey, Secretary of the Church, the Rev. Dr. James E. Wagner, President of the Church, the Rev. Dr. Ben M. Herbster, member of General Council, and the Rev. Dr. Perry L. Smith, Field Secretary of the Department of United Promotion. The Rev. Dr. Stephen Szabo arrived to share the latter part of the conference. A letter was received from the Rev. Dr. Charles E. Schaeffer expressing regret that due to his advanced age (90) it was deemed not wise for him to attempt to attend.

Brief statements were presented by Drs. Wagner and Mackey explaining the purpose of the conference (1) to take further advantage of better understanding acquired through synod-wide visits made recently by Dr. Smith, (2) discover ways in which the Church as a whole could enrich relationships with the Hungarian brothers and sisters, (3) discover ways in which our Hungarian churches could move toward fuller participation in the fellowship of work and witness of the whole Church. Dr. Smith repeated much of the report he had made to the February meeting of General Council on his encouraging and informative experiences while making an every-congregation visitation in the Magyar Synod. The conference was greatly aided by a thoughtful statement which had been prepared by Pastor Butosi. General discussion followed, during which in due time further helpful statements were made by each of those present. The spirit of the meeting was probably best typified by Mr. Fodor's remark that at this conference "we did not lay our cards but our hearts on the table". President Bessemer brought the conference to a close with an illuminating and appreciative statement. Opening prayer was offered by Dr. Toth, closing prayer by Dr. Wagner.

The "Tiffin Agreement"

Copies of the "Tiffin Agreement" had been mimeographed for reference use at the conference, and some general discussion took place of its influence and implementation.

1. It was fully agreed that the former Reformed Church in the United States and, more recently, the Evangelical and Reformed Church, had not failed to discharge their obligations under this agreement. Dr. Toth made a carefully prepared and detailed statement to this end, its sentiments being endorsed by all others representing the Magyar Synod.

2. It was pointed out that if the Church has at times been impatient at the progress of integration of our beloved Hungarian constituency with our total life and work, that impatience must be understood as deriving in part from what had been clearly anticipated at Tiffin and which is reflected in the Agreement's specific provision that "nothing should be laid in the way to hinder or prevent them (i.e., the congregations) from assimilating through historical process with the Reformed Church in the United States." Note was taken in this connection of a comment in Dr. Schaeffer's letter of

March 19, 1958:- "I felt at the time when we merged with the Evangelical Synod that a form of segregation on the part of our Hungarians might be advisable, and I suggested 15 years for such an arrangement. Probably, now, conditions warrant a change of policy, and the new merger with the C. C. Churches may serve to speed the integration into the general set-up."

3. It was recognized that great progress had been made during these less than 40 years since the Tiffin Agreement was signed, by way of fuller integration of our Hungarian constituency into the life and work of the whole Church,- as much progress as, or more than, had been made by our German forebears in a century and a half. But it was also recognized that any such comparison is imperfect for the simple reason that in the past half-century all social change has taken place at a rate many times more rapid than ever before.

In the United Church of Christ

While this conference was not called to discuss the place of our Hungarian constituency in the United Church of Christ, incidental discussion brought forward the following observations:

1. No congregation can be compelled to change its local name, but only on its own agreement to do so; although adoption of the name "United Church of Christ" with (Evangelical and Reformed) in parenthesis, is one desirable external way for a congregation to identify itself with the United Church.

2. The Basis of Union (IV E, V, X C) and Interpretation (e) clearly provide that the Magyar Synod cannot be dissolved, or its various areas re-organized as parts of regional Associations and Conferences, except by its own agreement.

3. Such voluntary provisos place a heavy responsibility on pastors and lay people, especially those who are in positions of leadership and influence, to seek to assure that decisions are made, not on the basis of past relationships and national heritage alone, but also with concern as to how American Hungarian Christians can work and witness most effectively in the future for the Lord Jesus Christ.

4. A Committee of 9 to Study Realignment of Synods, Associations and Conferences has been established by the Executive Council. This Committee assuredly will seek consultation with responsible leaders of the Magyar Synod before formulating any proposals affecting this Synod.

Opportunities for Church-at-Large to Enrich Relationships

General discussion brought out the interesting comment that in some instances our Hungarian pastors and churches have more frequent fellowship with Congregational Christian pastors, congregations and Associations or Conferences than with our own non-Hungarian constituency. Some typical opportunities requiring implementation by the Church-at-large, suggested by if not in the discussion:

1. Regional synods might seek closer fellowship with Hungarian churches within their bounds by such approaches as the following:

a. Invite Hungarian churches to send pastors and lay representatives to synod meetings for fellowship and information. The Fall Conferences would be especially helpful. It must be clearly specified that such attendance must not be considered alternate to or substitute for participation in Magyar Synod meetings.

b. Invite a Hungarian pastor as devotional leader at the Synod, or to preach the communion sermon.

c. Include Hungarian pastors and lay-leaders on mailing list for the synod news bulletin or paper.

Special appreciation was voiced for significant actions of this kind by Presidents Rest and Black.

2. Non-Hungarian churches should seek fellowship with neighboring Hungarian churches; e.g., joint meetings of Women's Guilds, Men's Brotherhoods, Youth Fellowships, congregation-wide fellowship programs.

3. Synods and local churches should make use of talented persons among our Hungarian constituency. Among possibilities mentioned were Mrs. Alexander Babos, former missionary in China, for evangelistic, devotional or missionary addresses; Mrs. Arpad Beretz, address; Mrs. Imre Kovacs, violinist; Mrs. Laszlo Harangi, writer. Others should be sought out.

4. Hungarian students preparing for fulltime service in the Church should be encouraged (a) to spend "clinical year" assisting in Hungarian churches; (b) consider seriously the need for their planning to serve in Hungarian parishes after ordination or commissioning.

5. Board of National Missions, possibly with help from the Commission on World Service, should take an interest in establishing churches or providing for some regular ministry in areas where there are strong concentrations of refugees from Hungary.

6. Board of National Missions should clarify, perhaps liberalize, its loan policy as applicable to parishes in the Magyar Synod.

7. No mention of Hungarian constituency and tradition in "My Confirmation". Could this be remedied in a revised edition; meanwhile by a leaflet inserted in copies of present edition?

8. An article (by someone like Dr. Fussell for The Messenger and he or Miss Hyer or Miss Paulson for the United Church Herald) on our Hungarian constituency, their heritage and traditions.

9. Alert consideration of Hungarian constituency when nominating and electing members of Boards, Commissions, etc.

Ways in Which Hungarian Constituency Can Move to Strengthen Participation in Life and Work of the Whole Church

1. Magyar Synod officers and other leaders encourage pastors and congregations to respond to opportunities suggested in Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 immediately above.

2. Report membership fully and accurately, not families but individual communicant members. It was noted that "per capita" is no longer a factor in laying denominational apportionment.

3. Hungarian churches should make larger use of visual-aid materials,- movies, filmstrips, slides, etc.,- offered by the denomination.

4. To supplement proposals in Paragraph 4 above, (a) the Magyar Synod should invite its pre-ministerial students to attend the spring meeting, providing for their travel expense; and (b) the Synod's Committee on Church and Ministry should plan closer, more frequent and continuous contact with Hungarian pre-ministerial students.

5. As a courtesy and aid to the Denominational Representative in the spring meeting, the Zonal Representatives in the fall, Magyar Synod should conduct its sessions primarily in English, it being clearly understood that delegates are free to revert to use of Hungarian language when there is real need.

6. The Apportionment was mentioned very little in the day's discussions, and it was one of the Hungarians who referred to it. It was generally agreed that there is much room for improvement in support of the Apportionment, which ought to be aided by some of the suggestions heretofore listed. Note was taken of Mr. Fodor's plan, which he initiated and volunteered, to visit every congregation to aid in this and other ways of fuller participation.

7. Hungarian churches should be encouraged by their leaders to explore and adopt the programs of Women's Guild, Churchmen's Brotherhood, Youth Fellowship, Board of Christian Education, and other denominational agencies.

Conclusion

Magyar Synod representatives were unanimous in expressing gratitude for the fuller understanding of the Church's interest the day's conference had produced. General Council representatives expressed gratitude for better understanding of concerns and problems of our Hungarian brothers and sisters. It was agreed another such conference might be desirable after each group had reported to the body it represented and received its reactions.

OUR AUTONOMY

Observations of Dr. Alexander Toth, at the meeting of the Summit Conference of the delegates of General Council and the Council of Magyar Synod, Cleveland, Ohio, April 11, 1958.

First of all, I wish to express my gratitude to the General Council and to Dr. Wagner for calling what we would designate as our Summit Conference. It was needed. My only regret is that you did not have more members of the General Council with us; I especially regret that Dr. Herbster could not have stayed to hear the remarks I am going to make. I am planning to go much deeper than the previous speakers did, to find the real reason for our difficulties.

You could already have sensed the direction of our main trouble from a few previous objections. You have heard the protest of Brother Butosi: "Do not decide about us - without us", and no doubt you were reminded by it of our great historic American principle: no taxation without representation. Then again, Brother Harto expressed the reason why the language of the meetings of Magyar Synod should not be changed into English - the opponents of Magyar Synod could justly say that since the language barrier is entirely removed, there remains no more justification for the maintenance of a special Magyar Synod. Even these and similar remarks enabled Dr. Wagner to sense that in our present deliberations there is a difference of attitude between the two groups represented here.

That is correct and the recognition of this difference will lead us to the subject on which I plan to talk. This difference of attitude on our part is a veritable defense complex, which is a characteristic peculiarity especially of the Reformed Hungarians. It was developed during the history of past centuries and found its constant expressions even in the political arena, where their protests against the grievances suffered from the inimical Hapsburg dynasty were the always recurring causes of frictions and even wars for independence or rather for the defense of their constitutional rights. Thus it became a historically established fact that AUTONOMY is inseparable from the life and contentment of Hungarians of the Reformed faith.

This was amply proven in the history of our people here in America. There were only six Magyar congregations and ministers in this country, when only five years after the foundation of the first of these churches, they decided - in 1896,- to form the first Classis. It took almost ten years, before this organization became a legally accepted judicatory of the Reformed Church. By that time, the American mission work of the Reformed Church of Hungary was also started, again by the establishment of another Classis, which five years later was divided into two Classes: the Eastern and the Western Classis.

A very significant proof of this indispensability of autonomy was given by a relatively unknown fact of the period, when the Reformed Church of Hungary closed its mission work in America. Moved mainly by the desire to unite the already divided group of the Reformed Hungarians, the leaders of the still functioning Western Classis knocked on the door of the Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A., and asked whether this denomination would accept the congregations and their two classes of the Reformed Church of Hungary. The answer was favorable to the congregations, but definite refusal about the classes. On account of this refusal, all future negotiations were dropped and it was unanimously decided that we all should return to or join the Reformed Church in the United States, where one Magyar Classis already existed and operated. When this transfer was consummated, the Reformed Church granted us three Classes in 1923 and five years later per-

mitted the regrouping of our congregations into four Classes.

At the time of the merger of the Evangelical Synod and the Reformed Church, the ecclesiastical form of Classis was dropped and new Synods were established. The General Synod of Fort Wayne, in 1936, granted the right to the Magyar congregations to form a separate Synod.

In 1937, Dr. Charles E. Schaeffer called the leaders of the four Classes together to a conference, held in Pittsburgh, on November 15, and read a statement to them - the original of which is right here in my hands now - in which he urged us to take our choice between the two possibilities: the absorption and the autonomy. By absorption he meant "that our Hungarian congregations will affiliate themselves with the new Synods in the geographical territory covered by these Synods. This will result inevitably in the gradual absorption of Hungarian congregations in the main stream of our American Church Life as this expresses itself in the Evangelical and Reformed Church. It will mean eventually the breaking away from Hungarian contacts, traditions, customs, theology, cultus, language, and the surrender of that which has been a distinctive heritage of the Reformed Church of Hungary from the days of the Reformation". This great leader of the Church, the "best friend we ever had in America", comparing the historicism of the European with the empiricism of the American Protestantism, urged our Classes leaders, that they should take the other road, that of autonomy. "If you choose the policy of absorption, you will eventually lose your distinctiveness and forfeit the possibility of leadership in the restoration of American Protestantism to the first and fundamental principles of the Christian religion. Your other course is then the policy of autonomy. When the germ enters the woman, it lodges in the matrix or the womb. There it is preserved. There it is sheltered and nourished. In the fulness of time a new birth takes place and a new man is born into the world. But, if the germ is absorbed by the other organs of the body, no birth takes place. So in this Hungarian Synod, you conserve your autonomy, and when the day of your 'showing forth' has come, when the new hour strikes, as it must eventually come in American Christianity, you will fulfill your mission and lead the religious forces of this disordered and distraught western land on a new way which is the old way marked by the bleeding feet of Him who said 'I am the true and living way'".

Dr. Schaeffer then sent me, the new Hungarian Secretary of the Board of Home Missions, out to all the Hungarian congregations, with his official recommendation, urging them to join the Magyar Synod, which was to be established next year. Most of them did; some decided to join the geographical American Synods.

In 1939 Magyar Synod was formed and in view of its large geographical territory, it has retained the four sections which were previously called Classes, with certain functions which were commissioned to them by Magyar Synod. The rules and regulations of these special functions were compiled by Dr. Dienes and myself, and after their adoption by Magyar Synod, were presented by this new body to the General Synod held in Lancaster, 1940, which approved them and inserted the preamble of these By-Laws into the Minutes of the General Synod.

All these were perfectly legal and constitutional developments. And it is important to emphasize here once and for all, that neither Magyar Synod, nor any section of it, wants to ask for more rights or privileges than the other 33 Synods of the Church have. In all our activities and work we want to proceed on strictly constitutional lines. We do not request any new or additional grants or prerogatives; we just want to preserve all the titles or advantages our Church has already granted to us.

The sum total of this is known under the name of the Tiffin Agreement, entered into by the Reformed Church of Hungary and the Reformed Church in the United States, in Tiffin, Ohio, on October 7, 1921. Its text and stipulations are well known by all of us; the Secretary of our Church kindly placed its text again into the hands of the participants of this meeting. During the past 36 years we often heard that "the Tiffin Agreement is a thing of the past and not in force anymore". Such voices are contrary not only to our knowledge and conviction, but also to the rulings of the highest judicatory of our Church. In the General Synod of Fort Wayne, 1936, Dr. George W. Richards ruled from the Chair - as the Minutes show - that the Tiffin Agreement is indeed in force. The Tiffin Agreement was a contract between two contracting parties and cannot be terminated or overruled without the consent of the two contracting parties. Our Magyar Synod and all its congregations consider this Agreement the legal basis of all the special consideration received from the Church in the past and present and regard it as such for their future too. Our Hungarian constituency differs from the rest of our Church only in this respect, that they joined this Church coming from the outside, on the basis of a formal contract which had definite stipulations for both contracting parties.

Permit me to state here that both the Reformed Church and the Evangelical and Reformed Church kept these stipulations very faithfully. To insure the full use of the Magyar language in our Church life they established the Hungarian chair in Lancaster and kept its work for fourteen years; Dr. Schaeffer called its closing "the greatest blunder the Board of Home Missions ever made". Then they secured for us the work of a Hungarian Secretary in the Board of National Missions. In 1950 they took over the 50 years old REFORMATUSOK LAPJA and made it the third official paper of our Church.

It should also be remembered that whenever any of our judicatories took any action which was showing impatience on the part of its members, the Church was always willing and ready to correct any mistake and to defend our constitutional rights. In the General Synod of Collegeville, where an unfortunate motion was presented to dissolve Magyar Synod, the President of the Church, Dr. Louis W. Goebel announced from the Chair that no Synod can be dissolved without its own request or consent. When the General Synod of Tiffin discussed the establishment of the Area Plan, it was accepted that the Magyar congregations may form a special Area of their own. When the General Council in Winston-Salem took a few actions about the problems of full-time presidency and admittance of Magyar congregations into Magyar Synod, Dr. Wagner graciously accepted the appeal of Magyar Synod, and upon the brilliant presentation of Dr. Stephen Szabo, President of Magyar Synod, the General Council of New Orleans corrected the previous action to the satisfaction of all parties concerned.

Remembering all these facts we can gratefully testify that our Church always respected our autonomy, although we have to add that we had to be constantly alert and vigilantly watch these and similar attempts - and exactly this fact is the basic reason for the existence of the "defensive attitude" you have experienced at this meeting too. If such attempts would not occur again and again, the gratitude of our churches would express itself in always more eloquent proofs of our loyalty.

Let me finish with one more quotation of our dear Dr. Schaeffer, whose absence from this meeting we all so greatly regret. The Hungarian Secretary of our Board of National Missions was granted the privilege to launch a very interesting and

promising undertaking: the General Secretaries of the three American Churches working with our Hungarian congregations came together, and the officials of all these three Hungarian groups, later even the Independents too, came together to discuss our common Hungarian problems. At the opening meeting of this Inter-denominational Conference, Dr. Jacob Lang, of the Presbyterian Church, made a very eloquent and elaborate statement, explaining that the Presbyterian Church does not have any Hungarian work: they have Christian work only. After him, our Dr. Schaeffer spoke and in a similarly scholarly presentation described the policy of our Church as entirely different from that of the Presbyterian Church: our Church wants to grant as much AUTONOMY to our Hungarian constituency as they can use. Almost from the beginning they had their own Classes, the number of the Classes grew up to four and later the Church even granted a separate Synod for them. He clearly explained the reason of this policy of the Church: the fuller the Hungarians can live their own Church life and the more freedom they feel in their activities; the much richer and more useful that life will be and the more the Church and the Kingdom of God will profit by this autonomy.

Dr. Schaeffer knew us and read what is in our heart and soul. We are hopeful that the continuance of this Conference will finally disperse all misunderstandings and will establish full confidence in the leaders of our Church about our loyalty and faithfulness.

Thank you for your kind patience.

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NOTE

My turn to speak came toward the end of the meeting: Dr. Herbster had already left and Dr. Wagner and Dr. Mackey announced that they had to leave in an hour too. After me, Dr. Stephen Szabo and Rev. Stephen M. Boszormenyi had to speak yet. I was therefore compelled to be short. But after the meeting was over, our Hungarian representatives instructed me to insert into this written copy all the arguments I had to omit on account of the lack of time. Since it was agreed that this written form will be communicated to every participants of the meeting, no damage was suffered by the abbreviation of the oral presentation. Neither is this completed form different from the oral presentation in any other respect.

The Official Insurance Guide For Churches and Synagogues

The **only** adequate and most logical defense against the pernicious and devastating effects of financial loss caused by an unforeseen occurrence, is the establishment of a sound and well-coordinated insurance program. This pamphlet contains a checklist of the many sub-divisions of available insurance protection to be considered by the appropriate church and synagogue leaders. It will be found that the first use of this checklist is to compare it with the present insurance program of the individual church or synagogue. The Trustees or Insurance Committee will then want to investigate this program further with their local independent property and causualty insurance agent from whom, it will be found, all of these coverages may be secured.

Experience indicates that churches and synagogues are very often not covered or insufficiently insured at the time of unexpected disaster. No attempt whatever has been made in this checklist to suggest **how much** protection under each of the various types of insurance policies each church or synagogue should carry. Since every situation is different, the actual amounts of insurance will depend upon:

1) The present cost of replacement of the property of all property owned, subject to subsequent periodic review.
2) The extent of liability to which the church or synagogue is exposed for injury or death inflicted upon the public or its employees.
3) The annual and seasonal total income of the church or synagogue and the sources from which it is derived, and
4) Other specific conditions.

With this background, you may now proceed to compare the insurance portfolio of the church or synagogue with the checklist appearing in the pages that follow.

A CHECKLIST OF INSURANCE COVERAGES FOR YOUR CHURCH OR SYNAGOGUE

Essential	Desirable	Special Situations	Church Is Now So Covered	
				PROPERTY INSURANCE—Covers actual damage to or destruction of the Church's property such as: buildings and contents including equipment, furniture, fixtures, inventories, supplies, machinery, automotive equipment (while located at the premises) etc., caused by such perils as those covered by the type insurance contracts and endorsements described below:
				Buildings
☒	☐	☐	☐	1. **Fire Insurance**—The standard fire insurance policy covers direct loss or damage caused by fire or lightning. This is probably the most important single form of insurance available to the church. **Careful attention must be given to make certain that all locations are insured for the full present day value.**
				Endorsements to the Policy modifying its coverage: Depending upon the circumstances and the ownership interests, the fire insurance policy can be easily adapted to fit any situation by the use of various endorsements. Some of the more important of these are:
☒	☐	☐	☐	(a) **The Building Form:** Although the church may not have full ownership of the building, this endorsement nevertheless covers whatever interest it may have.
☐	☒	☐	☐	(b) **Building and Contents Form:** Coverage on both the building and its contents may be obtained through the use of this endorsement with separate, stipulated amounts of coverage applying to each. Such items as machinery, air-conditioning systems, boilers and elevators, etc., are considered part of the building's equipment and may be insured either as part of the building or as its equipment.
☐	☐	☒	☐	(c) **Builder's Risk Form:** If the church owns a building which is in the course of construction, even though it may be only 25%, 50%, 75%, etc., completed, its destruction would constitute considerable financial loss to the church. Protection against such eventualities may be obtained through the use of this or similar endorsements.
☐	☐	☒	☐	(d) **Replacement Cost Endorsement:** When insurance is purchased on the basis of actual cash value less depreciation, the depreciation write-off at the time of loss caused by fire or other insured perils (see below), can represent a burdensome loss to the church. To avoid this, the cost of replacement endorsement for an infinitesimal additional charge can be added to the policy. This, however, usually requires that the church at all times insure in an amount equal to 100% of the building's value in order to avoid possible penalty.
☒	☐	☐	☐	(e) **Extended Coverage Endorsement:** When endorsed to fire policy, coverage is extended to include direct loss caused by windstorm, hail, explosion, riot, civil commotion, aircraft, vehicles and smoke in the same amount as that applying to the fire insurance limits under the policy. If several fire policies applicable to the building are purchased, care must be exercised to make certain that each policy also provides coverage under this Extended Coverage Endorsement if complete protection is to be expected. An additional premium charge is made for this coverage.
☐	☒	☐	☐	(f) **Additional Extended Coverage:** This endorsement, which is available only to dwelling, residential and parsonage type buildings, extends the policy coverage to include direct loss caused by: accidental discharge, leakage or overflow of water or steam from within a plumbing, heating or air-conditioning system or a domestic appliance; sudden and accidental tearing asunder, cracking, burning, or bulging of a steam or hot water heating or storage system; vandalism and malicious mischief; vehicles owned or operated by the insured or by a tenant; fall of trees or limbs; objects falling from the weight of ice, snow or sleet; freezing of plumbing, heating and air-conditioning systems and domestic appliances; collapse of buildings or any of its parts; landslide (not covered in certain areas) and glass breakage. This coverage requires the payment of a small additional premium and in many areas a $50 deductible is applied against each loss caused by certain of the insured perils. This may be purchased in conjunction with the extended coverage above only.
☐	☒	☐	☐	(g) **Vandalism and Malicious Mischief:** This coverage may also be separately endorsed on the fire policy for a very small additional premium. Church property is especially vulnerable to losses of this type. For dwellings insured under the Additional Extended Coverage Endorsement described above, V. & M.M. coverage is included. Unless it is considered as part of the structure, Glass Breakage is not covered by this endorsement (i.e.: glass brick is considered structured glass).
☐	☒	☐	☐	(h) **Dwelling Building & Contents Broad Form:** If the Church owns a residential building or dwelling which may be used as a rectory or parsonage, this endorsement may be added to the fire policy in lieu of the extended and additional extended coverage endorsements. The Broad Form not only covers fire and all of the perils in the extended coverage endorsements, but loss caused by burglars as well. It should be carefully noted that property actually stolen by burglars is not covered.
☐	☒	☐	☐	(i) **Dwelling Building Special Form:** Once again, any dwelling owned and used by the Church may be insured under this form which is considerably broader than anything previously outlined. It covers loss caused by any peril at all, except those that are expressly and specifically excluded in the form itself. Some of the more prominently excluded perils are: earthquake, flood, termites, insects, contamination, wear and tear, etc. Because of the broad coverage featured under this form and the relatively small additional premium involved, it is worthy of consideration by the Church.

Essential	Desirable	Special Situations	Church Is Now So Covered	
☐	☐	☒	☐	(j) **Demolition Insurance:** The fire policy may be endorsed at an additional premium to cover the cost of demolishing a building damaged by fire. Very often this is required by local ordinances and those that prevail in each locale should be carefully checked.
☐	☐	☒	☐	(k) **Earthquake Insurance:** This may be purchased as a separate policy or as an endorsement to the standard fire insurance policy covering, among other things, any of the perils already described above. Certain geographical areas are especially vulnerable to this type of destruction.
☒	☐	☐	☐	(l) **Debris Removal Insurance:** This coverage, which may also be endorsed on to the standard fire insurance policy is designed to reimburse the church for the cost of removing debris resulting from a fire. This is especially important when insuring reinforced concrete structures and other buildings **of only semi-combustible material.**
☒	☐	☐	☐	**2. Glass Insurance:** Virtually every church has made a considerable investment in its glass windows, which vary from elaborate stained-glass to small, but expensive plate-glass installations. Although the fire policy would cover any breakage due to fire or related perils, nevertheless there are any number of other type losses posing a threat to the church. Such perils can best be safeguarded against by securing a Glass Insurance Policy covering all valuable glass described in the policy, as well as blanket protection on less expensive panes of glass requiring no description. The most outstanding feature of the Glass Insurance Policy is the service of the insurance company. In most losses, the insurer will replace and install the glass itself instead of issuing a check in settlement of the loss. In addition, the policy covers the cost of removing and replacing window panes, and the temporary boarding up of knocked out windows at specified limits.
☐	☒	☐	☐	**3. Water Damage Insurance**—The fire insurance policy covers water damage caused by the extinguishing of a fire, but there are so many other forms of potential water type losses that separate protection against such eventualities should be considered. The Water Damage Insurance Policy covers the accidental discharge, leakage, or overflow of water or steam from plumbing systems, tanks, etc., heating, air-conditioning, refrigerating, etc., systems, appliances, etc., but does not cover damage caused by water escaping from automatic sprinkler system installed for the purpose of extinguishing a fire. Such damage must be separately insured.
☐	☐	☒	☐	**4. Sprinkler Leakage Insurance:** If the church has installed an automatic sprinkler system for the purpose of minimizing fire damage, there is always a possibility of leakage, freezing or the breaking of the sprinkler installations. Insurance is available under the form of the Sprinkler Leakage Policy for such perils which can be considerable.
☐	☐	☒	☐	**5. Fire Legal Liability:** Many churches, particularly while in the early stages of growth, are unable to purchase their own buildings. As a consequence, they must rent their own quarters from others. Naturally, they are liable to the owners for any damage to the property they might unwittingly or otherwise cause. Very often this liability may stem from a fire arising out of, among other things, the negligent operation of the church. This contingency may be insured by the church under the Fire Legal Liability Policy and should be a **must** in the insurance portfolio of every church lessee.
☒	☐	☐	☐	**6. Steam Boiler and Machinery Insurance:** The loss records throughout the nation are replete with church financial disaster arising out of uninsured boiler explosions. The extended coverage endorsement to the fire insurance policy covers explosion, **but only under certain conditions.** It is, therefore, incumbent upon every church to protect itself against such disaster. The best and most effective method of doing this is through securing Boiler and Machinery Insurance. The wide and universal use of steam boilers, engines, pumps, machinery, refrigeration, ventilating and electrical apparatus by churches throughout the country has created real and substantial hazards—hazards which could needlessly impose upon the church the responsibility of loss of life and property in addition to damaging financial drains on the treasury. The most important feature of the Boiler and Machinery Policy is the inspection and engineering service designed to prevent losses. As a matter of fact, a larger share of the premium dollar charged for such insurance is used for these services than for the payment of losses! **Prevention of loss not only preserves property, but life as well.** **The Policy contains four sections of coverage:** **I.**—Loss, damage or destruction of church property caused primarily by explosion, breakdown or failure of the insured objects **other than that which is attributed to ordinary and gradual wear and depreciation.** **II.**—Extra expense incurred to expedite repairs up to maximum of $1,000. **III.**—After Sections I and II have been disposed of, any remaining insurance may be applied to possible liability imposed upon the church for the damage of property owned by others. **IV.**—After settlement of all possible losses under Sections I, II, and III, any remaining insurance may be applied to liability arising out of Bodily Injury to others resulting from such losses. Injuries covered under any Workmen's Compensation Law are, however, excluded.
				Endorsement to the Policy
☐	☐	☒	☐	**Loss of Income:** If the church faces the possibility of losing any income as the result of a loss covered under the Boiler and Machinery Policy, it may obtain insurance against such loss by endorsement to the Policy. This coverage is called "loss of income caused by the interruption of business."
☐	☒	☐	☐	**7. Homeowner's Package Policies:** The insurance departments in most states have now authorized the sale of Homeowner's Dwelling Package Policies to anyone eligible for such coverage. A church rectory or **parsonage** would be considered an eligible insured under the forms. Consequently, they should be thoroughly investigated by the church for they not only afford far superior coverage, but do so at a substantial saving in premium. Homeowner's Package Policies are classified as either the Homeowner's A, B, and C or the Comprehensive Dwelling Policies. These forms cover both the dwelling and the contents and many other important exposures to loss. Each insures against loss caused by the perils of Fire, those enumerated in the Extended Coverage endorsement, Burglary and Theft of Contents while situated on or off the premises, as well as the Comprehensive Personal Liability of the resident owner. The "B" Policy goes a step further by also covering the perils contained in the Additional Extended Coverage endorsement, while "C" covers the Contents for all risk of loss except for those perils which are expressly excluded from coverage. The Comprehensive Dwelling Policy is essentially the same as the Homeowner's A, B, or C Policies. The primary advantage of this Comprehensive form is that it can sometimes be better adapted to the needs of the insured and at the same time, it may even cost less.

Essential	Desirable	Special Situations	Church Is Now So Covered	
				Contents
☒	☐	☐	☐	**Fire Insurance:** Coverage under the standard fire policy may be adapted in any number of ways to apply to the contents (meaning the furniture, fixtures, equipment, etc.) located on the premises of the church. Similar to building coverage, this is achieved through the use of endorsements.
				Endorsements to the Policy applicable to Contents:
☒	☐	☐	☐	(a) **The Building and Contents Form:** As previously explained with respect to building coverages, this form may cover both the building and contents for separate amounts of insurance stipulated in the Policy. There are many advantages of having both insured under the same form, particularly when a loss occurs involving both the building and its contents. **This form usually makes provision for a separate amount of insurance to apply to the Church organ.**
☐	☐	☒	☐	(b) **Improvements and Betterments Insurance:** This is of primary concern to the church renting property from another. Very often in such cases and with the permission of the landlord, the church may at its own expense invest a considerable amount of money in improving its appearance, facilities, etc., inside and/or out. Direct damage by fire or other related perils as a consequence could entail considerable loss to the church. Such contingencies can best be protected against by purchasing adequate improvements and betterments insurance.
☒	☐	☐	☐	(c) **The Extended Coverage Endorsement:** Coverage under this form, which was explained under Buildings Insurance, may also be adapted to apply to contents as well as improvements and betterments outlined immediately above.
☐	☒	☐	☐	(d) **Additional Extended Coverage Endorsement:** This form, also previously explained, may be applied to any household and personal property located within any dwelling property owned by the church and used for rectory, parsonage, or other similar residential purposes.
☐	☒	☐	☐	(e) **Vandalism and Malicious Mischief Endorsement:** Coverage against these perils may be endorsed on to the Policy to apply to contents which are very often particularly vulnerable to such loss. For the infinitely small extra premium, it should be added to all policies covering church contents (remember that this peril is also insured under the Additional Extended Coverage Endorsement).
☐	☒	☐	☐	(f) **Dwelling Building & Content Broad Form:** As the name implies, this endorsement, which was previously explained under Building Insurance, may also be adapted to the Contents located within a dwelling owned and occupied by clergymen, church personnel, etc.
☐	☒	☐	☐	(g) **Homeowner's Package and the Comprehensive Dwelling Policies:** As stated previously, these policies provide coverage for contents automatically along with the dwelling residential property owned and used by the church. Again, these policies offer so many advantages from the standpoint of coverage and price, they should not be overlooked.
☐	☐	☒	☐	(h) **Sprinkler Leakage, Water Damage and Earthquake Insurance:** Where potential loss from any of these perils exists, the church should not overlook such coverages with respect to contents.
				Special Equipment, Articles and Instruments Insurance:
				It is very often felt that the fire insurance policy, with all of its endorsements, is still inadequate to properly meet the insurance requirements of certain types of property—particularly those of high concentrated value and attraction. Therefore, other type policies should be examined.
☐	☒	☐	☐	1) **Fine Arts Insurance:** This provides "all-risk" type protection on objects of art which are individually scheduled and described in the policy. As mentioned above, policies previously described may also be written on Fine Arts, but many of the type losses to which they would be subjected could only be insured under the Fine Arts Floater. These type losses considered foreign to other forms of insurance would be water damage, carelessness of others, mysterious disappearance, damage by pets, etc. The contract has very few exclusions, the most prominent of which are wear and tear, breakage caused under certain conditions, etc. Most churches have a considerable amount of money invested in statues, paintings, etc., which would be more properly insured under this policy.
☐	☐	☒	☐	2) **Musical Instruments Floater:** The church very often will own a certain amount of musical equipment of varying value which might be quite vulnerable to any number of losses. The musical instruments form, due to its "all-risk" type coverage and limited number of exclusions should be considered in such instances.
☐	☒	☐	☐	3) **Silverware and Silver Plate Floater:** Many churches possess extremely valuable collections of silverware, silver-plated articles, goldwear, gold-plated articles and pewter goods, all of which are extremely vulnerable to loss such as mysterious disappearance, theft, burglary, robbery, etc. The Silverware Floater, because of its "all-risk" type coverage and limited number of exclusions, is ideal for providing the proper type insurance for such valuable objects.
☐	☐	☒	☐	4) **Personal Effects Floater:** Many church officials and leaders find it necessary to travel quite frequently for many, many reasons. As a result, their personal property and clothing is subjected to any number of type losses which may best be insured under the "Personal Effects Floater." It should be pointed out that coverage under this form does not apply to property while located on the church premises. It is designed for transient coverage primarily.
				5) **Personal Property Floater:** If, in addition to all of the needs stressed above, it is deemed desirable to purchase one package policy to apply to all personal property on an "all-risk" basis, the church should look into the Personal Property Floater which may cover: household goods, furnishings, clothing (including vestments), silverware, objects of art, jewelry, furs, cameras, recorders, projectors, hearing aids, appliances, books, draperies, etc. The contract contains relatively few exclusions.
				It should be pointed out that this personal property floater may be written in conjunction with either the Homeowner's "C" or the Comprehensive Dwelling Package Policies previously described.

INSURANCE AGAINST THE LOSS OF PROFITS, RENT, TUITION-INCOME, ETC., CAUSED BY FIRE OR OTHER ALLIED PERILS

Each year, more churches erect school buildings on church property for the purpose of offering a religious or liberal education from which tuition income is realized. Most of these churches rely heavily upon the profit derived from such operations to be used for other necessary and worthy purposes. Therefore, the destruction of such schools by fire or other peril, causing a shutdown, partial or otherwise, could represent considerable loss of both tuition and other related sources of income.

Similarly, many other churches conduct any number of different business enterprises from which they derive an income. Should the operation of such businesses be forced to cease as the result of fire or other related peril, the loss of in-

Essential	Desirable	Special Situations	Church Is Now So Covered	
				come could be substantial. At the same time, the church might find it necessary to continue paying certain expenses even though the business activities had stopped. For example, it might have to continue paying the salary of certain key personnel in order to retain their services until business is restored. Other loss contingencies connected with the interruption of the many income producing ventures make it incumbent upon the church to examine the various forms of insurance available for the protection against such loss. The more important of these forms are outlined below:
☐	☐	☒	☐	**1. Tuition Fees Insurance:** Serious loss can occur when a school owned and/or operated by the church is closed as the result of fire or other allied peril. This loss might represent tuition fees which must be returned, or the loss of anticipated tuition income occurring before the scheduled opening of the school, e.g., during the Summer months. Coverage reimburses the church for the loss of tuition income **minus** any operating expenses which would cease as the result of the closing. There are many attractive features of this form, too numerous to mention here, which should be thoroughly investigated by the church. It is an endorsement to the Fire Policy and insures against loss caused by any of the perils provided for in the contracts (Fire, Extended Coverage, etc.).
☐	☐	☒	☐	**2. Business Interruption Insurance:** Various and sundry profit-making businesses are conducted by many churches, ranging from cafeterias to bookstores and/or publishing houses. The loss of income from the business caused by fire, etc., could be substantial and in many cases, greater than the dollar loss of the physical property! In addition to the loss of income, the church might be faced with the task of having to continue paying certain expenses (e.g., the salaries of key personnel). The dollar loss facing the church in the light of such situations may entail thousands of dollars. Most certainly, therefore, this insurance should be investigated. Again, this form is an endorsement to the Standard Fire Policy.
☐	☐	☒	☐	**3. Extra Expense Insurance:** A large number of churches, individually or as a group, publish their own newspaper periodicals. If loss by fire, etc., causes the shutdown of these plants, and it is considered necessary by the church to continue publication without interruption, the extra expense incurred as a result could be substantial. Such contingent expenses can be completely protected by insurance and in appropriate situations, should be investigated.
☐	☐	☒	☐	**4. Rental Value Insurance:** Many churches, as part of their investment portfolio, find it profitable to own real estate for rental income purposes. If, however, such property were damaged or destroyed by fire or another related peril, this income could be lost. Rental value insurance would protect the church against this loss.
☐	☐	☒	☐	**5. Leasehold Insurance:** If the church found it necessary to rent its quarters on the basis of a long-time lease, destruction of such property might force the church to find space elsewhere **at a much higher rent.** Leasehold insurance would protect the church for the difference between the rents.
				FIDELITY AND SURETY BONDS
☒	☐	☐	☐	**1. Fidelity Bonds:** The church usually finds it necessary to entrust a number of persons with the responsibility of handling church funds. The greater the dispersement of such responsibilities, the greater the possibility of infidelity, individually or in collusion. Bonding company files are cluttered with sensational losses caused by highly respected private citizens entrusted with the extremely important task of accounting for church monies. Some of these losses represented a long series of the embezzlement or stealing of small amounts which, when added up over a period of years, was enough to cause financial disaster to the church. **Every church should make absolutely certain that their insurance portfolio includes adequate fidelity insurance.** There are many types of fidelity bonds which are of importance to the church. These are:
☒	☐	☐	☐	(a) **The Individual Fidelity Bond:** Covers larceny, embezzlement, forgery, misappropriations, wrongful abstraction, or any other dishonest or fraudulent act committed by the particular individual named in the bond. Such individual might be a fund raiser, collector, accountant, treasurer, etc.
☐	☒	☐	☐	(b) **The Named Schedule Fidelity Bond:** The individual bond might prove to be cumbersome and/or expensive if a number of persons are to be bonded, or if there is a frequent turnover of persons entrusted with church funds. The Named Schedule Bond incorporates all of the coverage afforded under the Individual Bond, but provides a schedule for the listing of the names of each responsible person, their position, and location, as well as a separate amount of insurance applying to each.
☐	☒	☐	☐	(c) **The Position Fidelity Bond:** The church might find it too difficult to keep accurate and up-to-date records of the names of the individuals handling funds. To alleviate this situation of proper coverage being jeopardized, the church might find the **Position Schedule Bond** to be more adequate for their needs. This bond provides a schedule of the various positions occupied by individuals appointed by the church involving the handling of money, with a specified amount of insurance applying to each position. This, of course, is far more advantageous than either of the previously described bond forms in larger operations. However, the type losses covered would be the same.
☐	☐	☒	☐	(d) **Blanket Fidelity Bonds:** Perhaps still greater flexibility and comprehensiveness of coverage is desired by the church. In such cases, the Blanket Fidelity Bond, which covers **all bondable** employees or entrusted personnel without actually naming the individuals or their positions, might prove more beneficial. In addition to greater flexibility, this Blanket Bond offers much more comprehensive coverage. In proper situations, this Bond should be investigated.
☐	☐	☒	☐	**2. Surety Bonds:** The Surety Bond, in the simplest of terms, is essentially a written financial guarantee that certain contracts will be fulfilled or tasks performed. Very often, the Church will find it necessary to award many different type contracts for such things as the erection of new buildings, as well as the alteration of, or addition to, existing structures. Failure to fulfill or perform the obligations of the contract by the contractors could represent serious financial loss to the church. Surety bonds, of which the following are the most common, should be furnished by the contractor in protection and as a requirement of the church.
☐	☐	☒	☐	(a) **Bid Bonds:** Whenever the Church authorizes public bidding on any contemplated project, it should require all bidders to furnish a bid bond guaranteeing that the contract will be entered into within a specified period of time by the successful bidder. If not, the Surety Company will reimburse the Church for any consequent financial loss (e.g.: the difference between the first and the next lowest bid).
☐	☐	☒	☐	(b) **Performance Bonds:** Once a contract has been entered into, the church must be protected against the possibility of the contractor, for one reason or other, defaulting with respect to adhering to the job specifications, completing the contract within the specified time or, because of financial inability, failing to complete the job at all. The best protection against such contingencies is to require the contractor to whom a particular job has been awarded, to furnish the church with a Surety Bond in the amount of the contract, underwritten by a financially sound Surety Company. Contract bonds are usually furnished by the same company supplying the Bid Bond for the Contractor.

Essential	Desirable	Special Situations	Church Is Now So Covered
☐	☐	☒	☐

(c) **Maintenance Bonds:** In situations where the church requires a contractor to maintain, repair, or guarantee a particular job against defective workmanship or materials, it should insist on the Contractor providing it with a maintenance bond of sufficient amounts.

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(d) **Miscellaneous Bonds:** Other important bonds worthy of investigation by church authorities in appropriate situations are: **Private Labor and Material Bonds,** furnished by the Contractor, which guarantees the payment of labor and material furnished by various sources in connection with certain contracts (usually written in conjunction with the Performance Bond); **Annual Guarantee Bonds** where the delivery of certain commodities to the Church over the period of a year at a specified price is guaranteed, etc. There are many other types of bonds available to cover any number of situations, but those which have been described above are the most important concerning the activities of most churches.

CRIME INSURANCE

Churches, by the very nature of their activities, and the equipment used in pursuit of many of these activities, are the frequent target of burglars, sneak thieves and vagrants. This is something that cannot be completely avoided at all times. The only alternative is to secure adequate insurance protection against this type of loss.

From the discussion outlined below, it will be seen that the crime exposures of the Church form a rather uniform pattern —enough so that special contracts designed solely for churches have been drafted for their protection.

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1. **Church Theft Insurance:** This policy protects the church against loss caused by theft or attempted theft, of property of the church while located: a) within the premises, b) within a night depository safe provided by a bank or trust company on its premises for the use of its depositors, or c) while in the care, custody, or control of a person authorized by the church to have such property. This Policy also protects the church against loss caused by damage to the premises and all furnishings, fittings, fixtures and equipment contained within the premises as the result of an attempted theft, or by an actual theft, **provided the church is the owner of the property.**

   If the church needs more protection on certain days (Saturdays, Sundays, Holy Days, etc.) for a small extra premium, coverage may be increased to apply to those days.

   The Policy may also be endorsed to cover theft from alms boxes, poor boxes or similar receptacles. Also, coverage for property used by clergymen in conducting religious services may be provided under the form.

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2. **Church Protective Policy:** This Policy combines many coverages into one, and should be written in conjunction with Church Theft Insurance described above.

   The Church Protective Policy provides a fixed amount of insurance for each of the coverages following: a) Larceny and Embezzlement, b) Interior Robbery, c) Messenger Robbery, d) Safe Burglary, and e) Check Forgery and Alteration. No church should be without either of these broad policies.

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3. **Valuable Papers and Records Insurance:** The church possesses many papers, records and documents that are of real and intrinsic value. The loss of such articles could cause considerable expense in their replacement. There is even a very real possibility that they could not be replaced at all. Valuable Papers and Records Insurance should, therefore, be considered. This Policy covers direct physical loss of or damage to valuable papers and records.

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4. **Broad Form Resident Theft Insurance:** This Policy may be applied to cover the loss of property by theft from a dwelling owned by the church which might be used for rectory, parsonage, etc., purposes. A certain amount of insurance may be applied to cover losses from the premises and another amount for losses incurred away from the premises. If, however, the church has purchased Homeowner's A, B, C, or the Comprehensive Dwelling Policies, this insurance is unnecessary.

INSURANCE FOR CHURCH EMPLOYEES

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1. **Workmen's Compensation Insurance:** Many churches, like any other employer, are required by law to carry adequate Workmen's Compensation Insurance for the protection of its employees. Other churches, not coming within the law, are still responsible for any employee injuries arising out of and occurring during the course of his employment. The difference between the two situations is that if any Church coming within the provisions of the law fails to secure Workmen's Compensation Insurance, it is faced with the double penalty of not only reimbursing the injured employee for an amount equal to that which is required by law, but the possible payment of a fine for violating the law. In any event, the most sensible approach is to obtain Workmen's Compensation Insurance **in all instances.**

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2. **Employer's Liability Insurance:** This is usually written in combination with Workmen's Compensation Insurance and protects the employer against liability for injuries sustained by an employee who may not be eligible for workman's compensation benefits.

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3. **Accident and Sickness Insurance:** As a wage or salary inducement, the church will very often provide various forms of accident and sickness insurance applicable to **non-occupational** injuries for its employees. Very often, the church will contribute towards the cost of the insurance with the employee.

AUTOMOBILE AND BUS INSURANCE

The average church is faced with many different exposures to loss arising out of the automobiles it owns, borrows, hires, or **those that are used by others in its behalf.** Thus, the automobile insurance program of the church must at all times be planned with extreme care. The following represents a brief discussion of every major form of automobile insurance available to fit the particular needs of the church.

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1. **Automobile Liability Insurance:** This protects the Named Insured against loss or damages arising out of the liability imposed upon him by law for bodily injury or property damage to members of the public from the operation or existence of automobiles, trucks, school buses and other automotive owned or borrowed by the Named Insured (in this instance, the Named Insured would be the Church or a Church official).

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2. **Employer's Non-Ownership Liability Insurance:** The automobile liability policy may be endorsed to cover the liability of the church for the operation of automobiles owned by employees or agents of the church when used in behalf and for the purposes of the church.

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3. **Hired Cars Liability Insurance:** In the event that the church finds it necessary to hire motor vehicles to carry out its business, the Hired Cars endorsement can be added to the automobile policy to cover possible liability arising out of the operation of such automobiles.

Essential	Desirable	Special Situations	Church Is Now So Covered	
				Many churches operating schools enter into contract with independent transportation companies for transportation of pupils in school busses. In such instances, the only manner by which the church can properly protect its interests for any possible liability arising out of the operation of these busses in its behalf, is to have the Hired Car endorsement added to its automobile liability policy.
☐	☒	☐	☐	**4. Medical Payments Insurance:** This coverage is designed to pay all of the medical expenses for injury arising out of an accident involving automobiles owned or being used in behalf of the Church, **regardless of whether the Church is liable for such injuries.**
☐	☒	☐	☐	**5. Collision Insurance:** The Church might have a considerable amount of money invested in its automotive equipment (automobiles, busses, etc.), which, if damaged by collision with another automobile or object, could represent substantial financial loss. To protect such investments, the Church should consider Collision Insurance which may be purchased with deductibles of $50, $100, $250, etc., depending upon individual preference.
☐	☒	☐	☐	**6. Comprehensive Insurance (Including Fire & Theft):** This important coverage protects the vehicles owned by the Church for damage arising out of fire, theft, glass breakage, flood, and many other perils, except loss caused by collision and/or upset. For the nominal premium cost involved, it should be considered under all circumstances.
☐	☐	☒	☐	**7. Fleet Insurance:** Many churches own or operate more than five vehicles, whether they be of the private passenger, truck, bus or other type design. Consequently, these churches should consider Fleet Insurance which, in addition to granting premium discounts based upon the number of vehicles insured, provides automatic coverage for all automobiles acquired by the Church at subsequent dates during the policy term.

GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE

Each year, thousands of people visit the premises of every Church for worship and prayer as well as participation in its unique and far-reaching sphere of activity. Accordingly, the liability of the Church for possible injury to physical body or property is thusly multiplied. Therefore, the Church should be especially cautious in determining all of these areas of liability in planning an adequate general liability insurance program.

☒	☐	☐	☐	**Comprehensive General Liability Insurance:** This policy insures against all known hazards (if declared in the policy and a premium charge paid), as well as unknown hazards which may confront the Church during the policy term as the result of accidents arising out of the Church property or its activities. Unquestionably, this policy should be in every Church insurance portfolio.
				The general liability and automobile liability insurance policies should all be written in the same company to avoid conflict at the time of possible loss involving both forms of insurance.
				All of the following coverages may be written separately or as part of the Comprehensive General Liability Contract:
☒	☐	☐	☐	(a) **Owner's, Landlord's and Tenant's Liability Insurance:** Protects the insured for accidents arising out of the premises or the activities conducted on the premises. Such hazards may be inherent defects in the building and premises, their maintenance (or lack of), as well as those attributable to the operation of the Church property.
☒	☐	☐	☐	(b) **Product Liability:** This insurance protects the Church against bodily injury and/or property damage arising out of the consumption of foods or beverages, or the use of any products sold, donated, etc., **away from the premises** owned, rented, or controlled by the Church, or after the Church has relinquished possession of such products.
☐	☐	☒	☐	(c) **Elevator Liability:** For the Church operating elevators connecting floors, elevator liability insurance should be considered.
☐	☐	☒	☐	(d) **Contractual Liability:** The Church very often finds itself in the position of assuming the liability of another, particularly those under contract with the Church for the leasing of property, goods, automotive equipment, etc. Such contractual assumptions should be declared in the general liability policy at the inception of coverage.
☐	☐	☒	☐	(e) **Owner's Protective Liability Insurance:** If work of any description is sub-contracted and performed for the benefit of the Church, the latter should make certain that its interests against possible liability arising out of such activities are properly protected.
☐	☒	☐	☐	(f) **Miscellaneous Liability Insurance:** Predominant among most churches is the sponsorship of athletic events, teams, etc., as well as camps, picnics and many other related events. Accordingly, the Church is encountered with innumerable liability exposures which must be properly insured.
☐	☒	☐	☐	(g) **Medical Payments Insurance:** For an additional premium, Medical Payments coverage may be added to the liability policy. Negligence of the Church is unnecessary for reimbursement under this insurance.

Conclusion

This checklist of insurance coverages includes all of the important policies, forms, and endorsements which should receive the serious and full consideration of the Church or Synagogue for the formulation and maintenance of its insurance program. At best, however, **it can serve only as a guide.**

Competent insurance counsel is necessary in order to avoid the further pitfalls of under-insurance, as well as the economic waste of over-insurance. Proper advice is valuable in the effective establishment of loss prevention and safety programs, paramount in the minds of all Church and Synagogue leaders. It is essential to obtain a wide selection of companies in order to safeguard against being insured in the wrong one (some are better than others). The Church and Synagogue must have interested and effective representation at all times—**especially at the time of loss.**

If your Church or Synagogue is desirous of procuring all of these services—and more—**they may be obtained only from** your local independent property casualty insurance agent. SEE HIM NOW.

Acknowledgments

This Church and Synagogue insurance program was prepared jointly by Lawrence F. Smith, Director of Education, National Association of Insurance Agents, 96 Fulton Street, New York 38, N. Y., and W. P. Buckwalter, Jr., Director of Financial Counseling, Office for Councils of Churches, National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y. It has been carefully reviewed and approved by: Frank R. Bell, Jr., Chairman, NAIA Property Insurance Committee, and Donald Bolton, CPCU, Chairman, NAIA Casualty Insurance Committee.

Reprints: Every Church and Synagogue should have a copy of this insurance guide. Reprints for this purpose may be obtained at a cost of 10¢ each; $4.25 per 100; $37.50 per 1,000 from:

Lawrence F. Smith, Director of Education
National Association of Insurance Agents
96 Fulton Street, New York 38, N.Y.

OR

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National Council of the Churches
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297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

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SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE CHURCH

September 16-18, 1958

To Members of the General Council:

The period August 2-31, was spent on a trip which included points in Scotland, England, Germany, Belgium and Denmark - approximately 9,000 miles. August 3-11, was spent in Edinburgh at the meeting of the Executive Committee of the World Alliance of Reformed and Presbyterian Churches, August 20-30, in Nyborg, Denmark, at the meeting of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches.

The interval between these two meetings, divided about equally between London, Berlin and Brussels, gave opportunity for fellowship and consultation with leaders of British Congregationalism and of the Evangelical Church of the Union in Germany (EKU), and a visit to the International Exposition at Brussels where I was particularly interested in the Protestant Pavilion. Since we gave substantially toward the cost of this Pavilion I will simply report that in terms of its location on the Exposition grounds, its architectural conception, and its interior appointments, exhibits, and literature and guide service offered to visitors, I think we have every reason to be gratified, and particular reason to be grateful to the tiny Protestant minority in Belgium (not more than 3 per cent) who forwarded this project in faith (and not much more than faith) while for so long world Protestantism was neutral or hesitant until at last it moved to undergird the cost. Total cost will probably be less than $200,000 toward which American Protestantism has now contributed close to one half.

The Alliance

Much of the time at the Alliance meeting in Edinburgh was taken up with furthering of plans for the 18th General Council which is to be held July 27, to August 7, 1959, at Campinas, Brazil, near Sao Paulo. I reiterate my conviction of the importance of this meeting, not so much from the standpoint of the Alliance itself, but (1) because any significant Protestant meeting in Latin America anywhere will strengthen the position of evangelical Christianity there at a time when doors appear to be really opening for non-Roman Christian witness, and (2) more particularly because precisely to this end there is being planned in connection with the Brazil meeting a "Fellowship Mission" through which it is hoped to give a strong evangelical witness throughout all of Central and South America. The general proceedings and results of the Edinburgh meeting will be coming to your attention through other media from time to time, but there are several matters I bring to General Council now for consideration and possible action.

1. A new and up-to-date leaflet entitled "The World Alliance of Reformed Churches" had just been published. Anxious to have these for inclusion in an early fall letter to our pastors for their information, I ventured to order 2,000 copies which have now been received in my office. The charge including postage was $40.00.

2. I had the privilege of reading the proof and offering criticisms and suggestions on a booklet, Bible Study Guide on "The Servant Lord and His Servant People", which is to be the theme of the Brazil meeting. This theme was chosen as particularly useful in an impact to be made in Latin America against the Roman Catholic background prevailing there. I found the booklet to be what seemed to me a remarkably fine and usable guide for a series of Bible studies in local church groups on the nature of the Church and the Christian's life in Christ. Again, since time was of the essence, I ordered 1,800 copies at the quantity price of ten cents per coy in order that they might be sent to our pastors this fall for possible use in their congregations during the coming year. Such study is being encouraged throughout all member-churches of the Alliance as one means of general participation in preparations being made for the Campinas meeting; and even apart from that this booklet impressed me as the kind I might have used as a pastor with a special congregational study group. In addition, it may well serve as a companion to the United Church's forthcoming study guide on "The Laity, The Church, and The Bible".

3. Plans had been completed for translation and publication of this Study Guide in English, French and German, and in Portuguese because of the considerable Protestant constituency in Brazil and the fact that the 18th General Council will meet there. I raised the question of translation and publication in Spanish since that is the language used practically everywhere else in Latin America. It was agreed that a Spanish edition was highly desirable, but Alliance resources would not permit it. I finally made myself personally responsible for securing up to $1,000 to finance this edition. I will amplify orally my zeal on this and the next matter in this report.

4. I call attention to the item on pages 23-24 of my primary report, dealing with a proposal for "fraternal delegates" from our Honduras and Ecuador missions to the Brazil meeting. I am now urging the strong desirability that from each field not only a Christian national, but also a carefully chosen member of the mission staff should attend this meeting.

5. The one other Edinburgh matter which should be reported here is that action was taken by the Alliance Executive Committee counterpart to an action taken by the Hartford meeting of the International Congregational Council as a result of which conversations are to be initiated between representatives of these two confessional groups. The Edinburgh resolution, which I had the privilege of writing, expressed the conviction "that at the outset of such conversations we should not be preoccupied with questions of polity reflected in our two bodies, but should carry on conversations within the wide context of our witness and mission in the light of the Reformed faith which we hold in common." That proviso reflects a concern that these conversations shall not duplicate the kind of well-meaning conversational merry-go-round on which so many discussions of our oneness in Christ seem to have moved, going on and on, travelling a long way, but apparently getting off each time at about the same place where they got on.

The World Council

Three items from the meeting of the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches should have our consideration here.

1. Plans have been in the making for some years looking toward integration of the International Missionary Council and the World Council of Churches. The former at its meeting in Ghana last winter took action approving in substance the plan of integration. The World Council had taken preliminary approving actions, final action to be taken at the next General Assembly. That Assembly has now been postponed from December, 1960, to December, 1961, in order to allow ample time for further consideration by all concerned. Meanwhile, the Central Committee has placed two questions before its member churches:

   (a) Are you, in principle, in favour of integration, provided that a satisfactory plan is evolved?

   (b) What comments have you to offer on the details of the proposed plan?

I was able to secure three copies of a booklet entitled "Why Integration?" and written jointly by the Vice-Chairmen of the two bodies, Dr. Ernest A. Payne, an English Baptist, and Dr. Dąvid G. Moses, a native of India. I have asked Dr. John W. Flucke and Mrs. Milton C. Lang to read this booklet and be prepared to speak to the above questions. I have no comments to make on the proposed plan. They may have. With or without comment, it seems clear that our reply to the first of the above questions should be an affirmative one.

2. The second item reflects the financial needs and problems of the World Council. Some of those needs result from the worldwide inflationary spiral which affects us all. Moreover, there is a tendency for the representatives of the member churches at a General Assembly to adopt, indeed to urge, program projects which the churches later are slow or find it difficult to underwrite financially. The following paragraphs are excerpts from the Report of the Finance Committee which was adopted by the Central Committee at Nybord: (from Section 12 of the Report)

   "b) that the Central Committee ask all member churches to increase their present annual contributions by at least 15% beginning in 1960;

   "c) that, in view of the present inadequacy of income and of the increase in expenses from January 1, 1959, the Central Committee appeal to any churches which can do so, to make such an increase already in 1959 or to make provision in their 1960 budgets for both an increased contribution in 1960 and a retroactive increase for 1959:

   . . .

"f) that the Central Committee inform the member churches that the increase in contributions requested under b) and c) above is made necessary principally by increasing prices and the declining value of money and that the postponement of the Third Assembly by one year makes it more clearly impossible to maintain the programme until the Assembly without increased contributions;

"g) that the Central Committee inform the member churches that they will be consulted about the proposed programme of work for the period following the Third Assembly and the level of member church contributions needed to finance that programme, under the procedure already adopted by the Central Committee, under which a draft report of the Committee on Programme and Finance will be presented to the 1959 Central Committee meeting and that report thereafter circulated to the member churches for their comments."

Any increase for 1960 and beyond is properly a matter for decision by the General Synod of 1959. My own hope is that we will find a way to increase our contribution for 1959 by 15 per cent, that is, from $12,500 to $14,375.

3. The Department of Information of the World Council has just published a 44-page booklet describing the Council, its membership, its manifold operations, etc., and doing so in what seems to me to be a very effective way. It has also published a smaller 12-page, multiple-fold folder, reproducing in brief the contents of the larger booklet. The booklet is available at 40 cents per copy in quantity, the leaflet at five cents per copy in quantity. If I can find some donor of $1,000 I should like to send a copy of the larger booklet to each of our pastors. If this possibility does not materialize, would the General Council authorize purchase of 2,000 copies of the leaflet for such distribution? It seems to me highly desirable to get to our pastors one or another of these sources of up-to-date information about the World Council.

I conclude this supplementary report simply by asserting that every ecumenical contact I was privileged to have during this August journey strengthened my conviction that, although the glow and glamour of Amsterdam and Evanston tend to diminish as time goes on, the ecumenical movement at large, the recognition by confessional groups that they must re-orientate themselves to that larger movement, and the translation of ecumenicity into such specifics as our own establishment of the United Church of Christ, reflect a deepening conviction of Christians everywhere that our "disunity as churches" stands ever under the judgment of our "oneness in Christ".

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE CHURCH

September 14-18, 1958

To the Members of the General Council:

Your Secretary is glad to report, in the items which follow, those activities in which he has been engaged during the time which has passed since the February meeting of the General Council. All are set down as briefly as possible. Numerous other matters, not incorporated in this report, have come to the attention of your Secretary and have been attended to without fail.

GENERAL SYNODS

As indicated in the Minutes of the Administrative Committee both the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and the General Synod of the United Church of Christ will be held on the campus of Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio. All arrangements have been made with the College Administration for these meetings. As you all know, the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church will begin on July 1, and conclude on July 5. It is proposed here that the Evangelical and Reformed Synod begin its sessions on the morning of July 1, and conclude, as was announced earlier, with the Communion Service on Sunday morning, July 5.

Although it was previously announced that the General Synod of the United Church of Christ would be scheduled for July 5-8, it is now proposed, after consideration of these dates by the Administrative Committee of the Executive Council of the United Church that this General Synod be extended through the afternoon of July 9. Preliminary plans have been made for the meetings on the Oberlin Campus. Arrangements have been made for a meeting in early October at which time Dr. Wagner, Dr. Hoskins, Rev. Nathanael Guptill, Rev. Albert Ronander and I will seek to determine plans for the General Synod of the United Church of Christ.

GENERAL COUNCIL - BURLINGTON, IOWA

Your Secretary has made all arrangements for the meetings of this General Council and is happy to report that fourteen persons representing the General Council and the Boards and Agencies occupied pulpits in Burlington and its vicinity on Sunday morning, September 14. Although this number was not sufficient to fill all the requests the pastors and congregations of the Burlington area made to me, this is a larger number than we have had on previous occasions. Allow me to reiterate again the hope that when General Council meets in semi-annual sessions that as many members of the General Council and as many of our executives as possible make themselves available for pulpit assignments.

Agenda for this meeting of the General Council, the meeting of the Committee on Correlation and Promotion and the meeting of the Cabinet on Correlation were prepared by your Secretary after consultation with the

president of the Church, the chairman of the Committee on Correlation and Promotion, Dr. John R. C. Haas, the director and assistant director of the Department of United Promotion and a number of the executives of the Boards and Agencies of the Church.

Elsewhere in this report an announcement will be made of the place and dates of the September 1959 meeting of the General Council. If the Sunday immediately preceeding the sessions is kept free on all schedules we will be able to provide an adequate number of our personnel for pulpit assignments.

GENERAL COUNCIL - 1959

After investigation of the possibilities for holding the meeting of the General Council in September, 1959 in Harrisburg and St. Louis, it was discovered that neither of these cities could accommodate us at the time suggested. Therefore, your Secretary has completed plans for the meeting of this General Council at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel in Philadelphia, September 14-17, 1959. It is my hope that you will find it possible to approve this arrangement. The Bellevue-Stratford Hotel is making every effort to provide for our needs. It is readily available to all who come to Philadelphia by train or air.

YEAR BOOK

As Editor of the YEAR BOOK, your Secretary is happy to note in this report that the 1958 YEAR BOOK was published according to schedule. Your Secretary is happy to record here a word of commendation to Mr. William Pelster and Eden Publishing House for the excellent cooperation which they manifested in the printing of the YEAR BOOK. It is your Secretary's opinion that this volume is worthy of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. Thus far we have received many good responses concerning it for which we are grateful. There are a few minor errors contained within its pages, but none of a serious nature.

MEETING WITH MAGYAR SYNOD SYNODICAL COUNCIL

On April 11, your Secretary, together with Drs. Wagner, Herbster and Perry Smith, met with the members of the Synodical Council of the Magyar Synod whose number was augmented by the presence of Dr. Alexander Toth and Dr. Stephen Szabo. Your Secretary prepared a brief document which served in part as a basis for our discussions. Responses to this conference on the part of both groups involved were good. It is anticipated that a second conference will be held sometime in the near future.

FORM-QUALIFICATIONS OF A MINISTER OR LAY MEMBER

In order that there might be some uniform method by which the qualifications of ministers and lay members of the Church might be placed before the Nominating Committee of the General Synod, a special form for this purpose has been prepared. Copy is attached (Appendix No. 1). It is proposed that a copy of this form be retained in the Office of the Secretary of the Church and that a copy be placed in the hands of the chairman of the

Nominating Committee of the General Synod. Unless the General Council should find some fault with this procedure, copies of this form will be made available to all of our Synods for their use in anticipation of the 1959 General Synod Meeting.

CONFERENCE ON THE CHURCH AND STATE

On February 18, 1958, an informal and unofficial meeting of representatives of the major denominations of our country was held in New York City to do some preliminary thinking concerning certain church-state issues which have become pressing in our time. As a result of this initial conference several committees of this group were asked to make some further investigations and to secure materials for further report and discussion at a future meeting of this group. Your Secretary represented the Evangelical and Reformed Church at this meeting and plans to participate in the next session of this body which is scheduled for Princeton, New Jersey, on November 10-11, 1958.

EXHIBIT - PROTESTANT PAVILION, BRUSSELS

At the request of Dr. Marcel Pradervand, your Secretary gathered together and shipped an exhibit of a number of our Churches built in the modern architectural mode together with a display of the work of our overseas Missions to Dr. Pradervand who prepared the exhibit at Brussels. Some of this material is being retained by the Office of the World Council of Churches in Geneva for use in other ways.

FIRST CHURCH, PORTLAND, OREGON

Dr. John Mueller will report at another time concerning the situation at First Church, Portland, Oregon. At the request of Dr. Wagner, your Secretary travelled to Portland for what was anticipated would be a trial involving First Church and Pacific Northwest Synod. It is sufficient to note here that the matter was settled out of court and that both Dr. Mueller and I were quite gratified by the results of the settlement.

INTERNATIONAL CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT

It can be noted briefly that your Secretary served as a fraternal delegate to this Council and was present at its sessions from July 3, through July 7. Dr. Wagner, Dr. Gerhard Grauer, Dr. Haas, Miss Frances Kapitzky and Dr. Sara Corman were present at various times throughout these sessions. Dr. Haas addressed a dinner meeting held at one of the evening sessions of the Council and spoke as a representative of the Evangelical and Reformed Church and its fraternal delegation. All of the fraternal delegates were warmly welcomed and, I for one, can testify to the value of the sessions and the opportunities which this Council provided for conversations with pastors and lay people from many parts of the world.

POLICY ON FEDERATED AND UNITED CHURCHES

Attached to this report is the edited Policy on Federated and United Churches which, I hope, will meet with the approval of the General Council. (Appendix No. 2) There are no changes other than editorial changes

appearing in this document. General Council will remember that the editing of this Policy was authorized by the General Council last February. Later the Administrative Committee asked Dr. Wagner and me to recommend such editorial revisions as might seem necessary in this document.

OPEN HOUSE - BUREAU OF AUDIO-VISUALS AND EDEN-HEIDELBERG BOOKSTORE, PHILADELPHIA

In recent months the Bureau of Audio-Visuals has relocated on the first floor of the Schaff Building, and the Eden-Heidelberg Bookstore in Philadelphia has been completely renovated. An Open House was planned for the Bureau and the Bookstore on September 5-6. Your Secretary prepared materials and secured photographs which were used in the publication of a booklet containing information concerning all of the Offices of the Church located in the Schaff Building. Eden Publishing House graciously printed and distributed the invitations to the Open House and printed the booklet which was presented to all who came to Open House.

ANNUAL VISITATION, LANCASTER SEMINARY SENIORS

As is the custom the Secretary of the Church made all plans which were necessary for the annual visit to the Schaff Building Offices of the Lancaster Seminary Seniors. This visitation was held on May 9, following which the Schaff Building family entertained the Seminary seniors at luncheon.

STATISTICAL RESUME

The following is the statistical resume covering the last three years which will prove helpful to all members of the General Council who are interested in comparisons of these figures during these past years. The Resume follows:

A comparison of the statistics of our Church for the years 1955, 1956 and 1957, as compiled in the Office of the Secretary

	1955	1956	1957
Pastors	1,885	1,879	1,829
Ministers without Charge	717	759	787
Charges	2,140	2,162	2,171
Congregations	2,736	2,738	2,739
Total Accessions	53,315	56,841	53,631
Total Losses	42,960	46,308	46,626
Net gain in Membership	10,355	10,533	7,005
Total Communicant Membership	784,270	794,047	800,961
Members Communing at least once during the year	665,918	673,989	680,296
Total Church School Enrollment	528,490	532,388	532,381
Average Church School Attendance	323,572	329,291	333,923
Students for the Ministry	718	703	690

OVERTURES FROM SYNODS

The following are Overtures which have come from the Synods to the General Council following the 1958 Spring Meetings of the Synods. Included in this listing are also a number of Overtures which are made to the General Synod but which, nonetheless, seem to require some consideration by this General Council.

National Missions:

1. North Illinois Synod overtures the General Council to study the present policy of the Board of National Missions in regard to funds of the Church Building Department and to report its findings to the General Synod in 1959 with recommendations on how the Board might more adequately meet the challenge for church building in our day.

2. New York Synod overtures the General Council, and through the General Council such Boards and Agencies of the Church as are responsible for the investment of funds, to study the possibility of making more funds of the Church available for investment in new mission churches on a safeguarded loan program.

3. Northeast Ohio Synod overtures the General Council to direct the Board of Investments to invest some of their funds, if legally possible, for the purpose of initiating mission churches through a safeguarded program.

4. Texas Synod overtures the General Council to direct the Board of Pensions and Relief and the Board of Investments to investigate the possibility of investing some of their funds for the purpose of initiating mission churches through a safeguarded loan program.

Potomac Synod supports this overture of Texas Synod. Midwest and Pittsburgh Synods also support it but address their overtures to the General Synod.

5. North Illinois Synod overtures the General Council to direct the Board of Pensions and Relief and the Board of Investments to invest some of their funds for the purpose of initiating mission churches through a safeguarded loan program, providing it is possible under Federal law.

6. Michigan-Indiana Synod overtures the General Council to direct the Board of Pensions and Relief and the Board of Investments to invest some of their funds for the purpose of initiating mission churches through a safeguarded loan program.

California, Central Pennsylvania, East Pennsylvania, Missouri Valley, Northwest Ohio, Pacific Northwest and Philadelphia Synods support this overture of Michigan-Indiana Synod.

Proposal: Refer Overtures 1-6 to Committee composed of members of the Committee on Finance and Budget, Board of Investments, Board of Pensions and Relief and the Committee on Correlation and Promotion.

7. In view of limited and discouraging facilities in many "new mission" churches, Northwest Ohio Synod overtures the General Council of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to encourage the Board of National Missions to provide adequate facilities for existing "new mission" churches before organizing additional congregations.

8. Northeast Ohio Synod overtures the General Council of the Evangelical and Reformed Church to encourage the Board of National Missions to consider allocating an appropriate proportion of its capital improvement and new work funds to projects in the inner city.

Proposal: Refer Overtures 7 and 8 to Board of National Missions for study and report to Synods involved.

9. Whereas the cost of establishing a new church has increased steadily over the years and the amount of money which the Board of National Missions has been able to loan to these new congregations has not kept pace with the needs, and whereas the requirement of a first mortgage by the Board of National Missions seriously handicaps these congregations as they seek to secure additional financial help from other sources, Mercersburg Synod respectfully overtures the General Synod to authorize the Board of National Missions to restudy its procedures and policies in granting assistance to mission churches with a view to removing the handicap which a first mortgage requirement imposes, either by accepting second mortgages as security for its loans or by such other suitable method as the Board may devise.

Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Potomac Synods support this overture of Mercersburg Synod. Pittsburgh Synod adds as the final clause: "while at the same time retaining adequate control."

Proposal: Refer Overture of Mercersburg Synod and others to Board of National Missions for study and report to February 1959 meeting of General Council.

Item 14 (By-Law 139) and Item 15 (By-Law 140) - Benevolent Institutions:

10. Northeast Ohio Synod, disapproving the substitute for By-Law 139 as proposed in items 14 and 15 of the report of the Committee on Constitutional Matters in the 1958 BLUE BOOK for the Synods, overtures the General Council to give further study to the matters of membership and associate membership in the Commission on Benevolent Institutions.

Proposal: Refer to Committee on Constitutional Matters By-Law 139 and 140 (BLUE BOOK, page 161).

11. Recommendation 1 - National Missions Northwest Ohio Synod overtures the General Council to direct the Board of National Missions to enter into contracts for reimbursement of grants or subsidies in the event the recipient withdraws from the denomination.

Proposal: Refer Recommendation 1 (p. 161) to Board of National Missions.

12. Recommendation 2 - Dual Standing, E & R and CC Ministers Missouri Valley Synod petitions the General Council and the President of the Church to issue a statement of policy clearly indicating that the Constitution of the Church does not forbid dual memberships of ministers in the Evangelical and Reformed Church and in some other denomination, but that the minister with such dual membership must choose in which denomination he chooses to exercise voice and vote.

Proposal: Refer Recommendation 2 (p. 161) to Committee on Constitutional Matters.

13. Recommendation 3 - Geographical qualifications of members of Boards and Agencies of the Church Missouri Valley Synod recommends to General Council that geographical qualifications for members of boards and agencies of the Church not be mandatory but be an advisory consideration on the part of the Committee on Nominations.

Proposal: Refer Recommendation 3 to Committee on Nominations if this seems advisable.

14. Northern Synod overtures the General Synod that it endorses Recommendation 1 and 2 and requests that the Committee on Constitutional Matters present them as amendments to the By-Laws. Northern Synod endorses the stand taken by the Committee on Constitutional Matters in Recommendation 3.

Proposal: Refer request to Committee on Constitutional Matters Recommendations 1, 2 and 3 and Northern Synod 1 and 2.

15. Southwest Ohio Synod overtures the General Synod that By-Law 59d shall be interpreted by a synod to provide for the following procedure: That the first ballot shall be a nominating ballot. Those receiving a majority of the votes shall be declared elected. On the second ballot, four times the number of unelected delegates receiving the next highest number of votes shall be used as nominees. On the third ballot, three times the number of unelected delegates shall be used as nominees. On the fourth ballot twice the number of unelected delegates.

Proposal: Refer to special committee of Drs. Haas and Herbster Overture on By-Law 59d, Southwest Ohio.

16. Missouri Valley Synod expresses concern for the duplication and amount of mailings, the conflict and number of meetings, the succession and pressure of fund campaigns, and the depersonalizing effects of bigness in Church Administration and government. Synod instructs its secretary to forward this resolution to the General Council.

Proposal: Refer Missouri Valley Resolution to Committee on Correlation and Promotion and Cabinet on Correlation and Promotion

17. Northern Synod overtures the General Synod to request our Boards and Agencies to make a concerted effort to coordinate their many mailings and communications to pastors.

Proposal: Refer overture of Northern Synod to Committee on Correlation and Promotion and the Cabinet on Correlation.

Apportionment Matters

18. North Illinois Synod, by a unanimous vote, overtures the General Council and the General Synod to limit the expansion of boards and agencies of the Church and the denominational apportionment, with the understanding that new increases in benevolent giving be used to meet expanded budgets of local synods.

Proposal: Refer to Administrative Committee for reply to North Illinois Synod.

19. Pacific Northwest Synod petitions the General Council and the Department of United Promotion relative to the high per capita apportionment for Pacific Northwest Synod.

Proposal: Refer petition of Pacific Northwest Synod to Committee on Correlation and Promotion.

20. Philadelphia Synod petitions the General Council to study the possibility of supporting a research program in the area of the use of Christian insights in dealing with the mentally ill, with other denominations or through the National Council of Churches.

Proposal: Refer petition of Philadelphia Synod to special committee now at work and to President of Church for consultation with National Council of Churches.

21. Lay Leader or Lay Reader as Spiritual Overseer of a Congregation - It is the earnest hope of both laity and clergy that our Church shall advance. One aspect of this advance is an increase in the number of churches. This desire and this growth immediately impress us with the need for personnel.

Additional churches mean additional pastoral leadership. But we are confronted with the disturbing dearth of licensed and ordained ministers. The alternative is not a curtailing of our program, but the initiation and adoption of a procedure that will not only enable us to hold our own but which will help our Church attain and perhaps exceed its goal.

In view of the needs which exist within West New York Synod and in other areas of our Church, West New York Synod overtures the General Council of the Evangelical and Reformed Church that the General Council authorize the Commission on Church and Ministry and the Commission on Higher Education to develop a program for the training and the commissioning of licensed lay leaders or lay readers who, upon satisfactorily meeting the requirements of such training, shall be granted the status of a spiritual overseer of a congregation.

Central Pennsylvania, Kansas City, Midwest, Pacific Northwest and Philadelphia Synods support this overture of West New York Synod.

Proposal: Refer overture of West New York Synod and others to Commission on Church and Ministry and Commission on Higher Education.

22. Mercersburg Synod overtures the General Council to have prepared a booklet on liturgics for use by ministers, choir directors, organists, alter guilds and acolytes.

Proposal: Refer to Committee on Liturgics

INSURANCE COVERAGE

It can be reported at this time that all renewals of policies previously held by members of the General Council and staff members of our Boards and Agencies and Synod Presidents together with all applications for new policies secured through the Educators Mutual Life Insurance Company have been cared for by my office. At the time of this writing payments have been received for all policies with the exception of two and funds have been forwarded to Treasurer Keck. I am appreciative of the prompt response of all to my billing of those covered under this policy. It should be reported also that all members of the General Council and the Department of United Promotion are covered by common carrier insurance secured through the Travelers Insurance Company.

DATA CONCERNING MINISTERS AND CONGREGATIONS

Included with this report (Appendix No. 3) is the compilation of certain statistical matters concerning ministers and congregations of the Church.

BINDING OF GENERAL COUNCIL MINUTES

I have with me a bound copy of the Minutes of the February meeting of the General Council. It it should be the desire of members of General Council that they receive their minutes hereafter in this bound form rather than in the present looseleaf form I would like the General Council to indicate so to me. I can say that I have been using this bound copy for the past several months and have found it to be very sturdy despite much use. General Council's direction will be welcomed at this point.

OTHER MATTERS

In addition to those matters reported above your Secretary has, of course, attended to his duties as Secretary of the General Council, its Administrative Committee and the Committee on Correlation and Promotion.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

General Council Members to Boards and Agencies

According to authorized procedure I have provided a schedule of assignments of General Council members to the meetings of the Boards and Agencies of the Church. Every attempt has been made to keep this schedule up to date and to provide for the presence of a General Council member at two sessions of each Board and Agency. For a variety of reasons it is not always possible for General Council members to be present at the scheduled meetings of the boards and agencies. When this occurs the General Council member is reassigned to the same board or agency until he has completed his full "tour of duty" in each instance.

All-Staff Conference

In my February report to this General Council I called attention to the plans for the All-Staff Conference scheduled for March 21-23, 1958, at the Voluntary Service Training Center near Pottstown, Pennsylvania. It is good to report that despite one of the most severe snow storms in many a year, this Conference was held, but not at the Voluntary Service Training Center. It can also be reported that, despite the heavy snows, practically every staff member of our boards and agencies managed to be present. The meetings were held in the Central Y. M. C. A. Building in the center of Philadelphia, and the program, as scheduled, was carried through without further difficulty.

Proposals were made by the Conference that future plans for the All-Staff Conference should include staff members of the boards and agencies of the Congregational Christian Churches.

A special committee will be appointed to investigate the possibilities of such a joint conference sometime in the near future.

Meetings With Boards and Agencies

As Director of Correlation I have met, through the past months, with the following:

Commission on World Service, St. Louis, March 10-11
Committee on Production of Audio-Visuals of the United Church of Christ, New York, March 19
Executive Committee of the Board for Home Missions, United Church of Christ, Cleveland, April 10
Commission on Church and Ministry, New York, April 17
Board of Christian Education and Publication, Philadelphia, April 23-24
Board of Business Management, Chicago, May 27-28
Committee on Production and Distribution of Audio-Visuals, Philadelphia, June 3
Commission on Stewardship, Elmhurst College, June 10-12

Formula for Allocations to Educational Institutions

At the request of Dr. Theodore Distler, Chairman of the Special Committee on Formula, I met with this Committee in Washington, D. C., on April 15, at which time the Formula was put into form for report to General Council. Dr. Wagner has already presented this report to General Council. It is my hope that this proposal will be found worthy of submission to the 1959 General Synod and that steps will be taken at that meeting to implement this Formula.

Presentation of Program of Church to Senior Seminary Students

After some consultation with Dr. L. C. T. Miller, and following correspondence with Dr. Robert V. Moss, Jr., president of Lancaster Theological Seminary, I held a conference with Dr. Sayres and Dr. Gable at Lancaster Seminary on April 21, to discuss the future plans for the presentation of the total program of the Church to the Seminary Seniors. The proposal which I made at that time has been found acceptable by the Seminary and provisions will be made for time in the next Seminary year and in the years thereafter for the kind of presentation which will incorporate all aspects of the work of the Church. If this procedure is found to be fruitful and helpful it is my hope that similar plans might be made for such a presentation to the seniors at Eden Seminary and Mission House Seminary.

It has seemed to me for sometime that the kind of piecemeal presentation which has been made by several of our boards and agencies to the Seminary students has not provided adequate time in any instance nor has it given the Senior Students an opportunity to grasp the total picture of the Church's program. It is hoped that the procedure which has been proposed and accepted by Lancaster Seminary will serve to strengthen the work of the Church as it enlarges the understanding of this program on the part of our senior Seminary Students who will soon be taking their places in the pastoral ministry.

Allocation of Benevolent Monies

At the request of the Committee on Correlation and Promotion I have made investigation of the practices as carried on by several major denominations in our country with regard to the allocation of denominational benevolent monies to judicatories such as Synods, Conferences, Presbyteries and Dioceses. A report of this study which will be made to the Committee on Correlation and Promotion is attached to this report (Appendix No. 4). No doubt the Committee on Correlation and Promotion will later make a recommendation concerning this matter to the General Council.

Schedules

Correspondence has been carried on with the presidents of the thirty-three Synods concerning the dates and places of the 1959 Spring Meetings of the Synods. This schedule is attached to this report (Appendix No. 5). This schedule reports the assignments of the General Council Members to the several synods as denominational representatives. In every instance I have

sought to assign members of the General Council to those Synods where dates of meeting do not conflict with the dates of their own synod meetings. It is my earnest hope that all General Council members will accept the assignments as indicated on this schedule.

It is good to report, also that the 1958 schedule of Fall Meeting dates and places is complete. Copies are attached (Appendix No. 6)

Calendar of Dates

Each month a Calendar of Meetings of Boards, Agencies and other Committees and bodies of the Church is prepared and mailed to members of the General Council, all Boards and Agencies, the Office of Communication, the Speakers Bureau of the Congregational Christian Churches, Synod Presidents, the Department of United Promotion and to the Editors.

United Church of Christ

As Co-Secretary of the United Church of Christ, I have kept the following assignments:

Administrative Committee- Executive Council, Philadelphia, March 21
Administrative Committee - Office of Communication, New York, March 24
Executive Council-United Church of Christ, Cleveland, April 9-10
Administrative Committee-Executive Council, New York, May 26

I have been responsible for the minutes of these bodies and have made preparations for their meeting places as well as for the meeting place of the Committee on Constitution.

During this past spring I accepted invitations to deliver major addresses at the meetings of the Iowa, Maine and Massachusetts Conferences of the Congregational Christian Churches. In addition it was my privilege to deliver two addresses to a meeting of the Middle Atlantic Conference of the United Church Laymen held near Downington, Pennsylvania.

As always your Secretary is profoundly grateful to God for His many gifts and for His guidance during these last months. Moreover, no such report as this could be given without an expression of gratitude to the Officers of the Church, the members of the General Council and the several executives of our boards and agencies for their helpfulness and cooperation in untold ways.

For a variety of reasons which are purely personal your Secretary is tempted to erase the year 1958 from the annals of time. He hopes that by the time this report is presented to the General Council a more complete statement concerning this latter sentence might be made to the General Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheldon E. Mackey
Secretary

OTHER ENGAGEMENTS

March	5	Sermon - Lenten Service, Glenside, Pa.
	9	Sermon - Dedication - St. John's Church, Massilon, Ohio
	26	Sermon - Lenten Service, Glenside, Pa.
April	4	Sermon - St. Paul's Church, Fort Washington, Pa.
	6	Address - Glenside, Pa.
	21	Sermon - Lancaster Theological Seminary
	22	Address - Northeast Ohio Women's Guild, Elyria, Ohio
May	2	Address - Iowa Conference-CC, Osage, Iowa
	6	Address - Maine Conference-CC, Auburn, Maine
	11	Sermon - 50th Anniversary-Grace Church, Bethlehem, Pa.
	20	Address - Massachusetts Conference-CC, Plymouth, Mass.
	24	2 Addresses - Middle Atlantic Conference of Laymen, Downington, Pa.
	29	Sermon - Dedication of new Church Building, First Church, Sunbury, Pa.
June	7	Service and Sermon - CBS Church of the Air - Recording for broadcast Sunday, September 7, 1958
	19	Sermon - Philadelphia Y.W.C.A., Chapel Service
	22	Sermon - A.M. - Salem Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana
	22	Address - P.M. - 75th Anniversary, Fort Wayne Children's Home
	26	Address - Hoffman Orphanage, Carlisle, Pa.
July	25	Sermon - 40th Anniversary of Dr. John Haas' Ordination St. John's, Evansville, Indiana
	27	Service and Sermon - Broadway Congregational Christian Church, N. Y.
Aug.	8	Wedding - Second Church, Reading, Pa.

Mail to the Office of the General Council of the Evangelical and Reformed Church
616 Schaff Building, 1505 Race St., Philadelphia 2, Pa.

Qualifications of a Minister or Lay Member For Membership on Agencies of the General Synod And for Other Service to the Church

Name

Address

Age (Approximate, if exact age not known)

General education and specialized training (High school, college, postgraduate, other.)

Occupational experience

Service within the Church (If a minister, service beyond the pastorate.)

Interdenominational or community service

Special interests

In what areas of the Church's life do you believe he (or she) could serve well?

Signature _____

Official Title _____

Date _____

Secretary's Report, 9/14-18/1958 - Appendix No. 2

POLICY REGARDING FEDERATED CHURCHES AND UNITED CHURCHES

Federated Churches

RESOLVED, That a congregation of the Evangelical and Reformed Church shall enter into no federation with a congregation not affiliated with the Evangelical and Reformed Church, or into an agreement therefor, without the approval of the General Council.

RESOLVED, That the General Council declares that its policy shall be to give such approval only under the following conditions:

(a) If, in its opinion, the proposed federation is for the best interest of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, its membership, program and objectives.

(b) If, in its opinion, the proposed federation will preserve the identity of the Evangelical and Reformed Church seeking to participate in such federation and will promote the loyalty and support of the Evangelical and Reformed congregation in behalf of the program of the denomination.

(c) If the proposed federation is the recorded wish of at least two-thirds of the members of the Evangelical and Reformed congregation proposing to enter the federation.

(d) When the approval of such federation by the General Council or its counsellor is sought by written application submitted to the president of the Church prior to the execution of the agreement therefor.

(e) If the plan of the proposed federation is such as to assure the continued growth of the number of Evangelical and Reformed members of the proposed federated church.

(f) That proper assurance be given that (if) the application be approved and the federation established, the federated church shall be and remain in good standing as a member congregation of the Evangelical

and Reformed Church, and shall be and remain subject to the same direction and authority as is or shall be provided for congregations of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

RESOLVED, That a minister from another participating denomination, before being called to a federated church, shall apply to the Evangelical and Reformed Church for privilege of call. In such instances he shall not be expected to surrender his ministerial standing in his own denomination.

United Churches

RESOLVED, That no congregation of the Evangelical and Reformed Church shall unite with a congregation not a member of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, if by such union it shall lose its status as a member of the Evangelical and Reformed Church, without the approval of the General Council.

RESOLVED, That the General Council shall not approve such union

(a) If three or more members of the said Evangelical and Reformed congregation disapprove such union.

(b) Unless the real estate and other assets owned by the said congregation be conveyed to the Evangelical and Reformed Church or its proper judicatory.

RESOLVED, That if such union proceed without the approval of the General Council the said uniting congregation shall be recognized and be dealt with as continuing its membership in the Evangelical and Reformed Church and shall be subject to all obligations and responsibilities as such.

RESOLVED, That the General Council may, at its discretion, recognize three or more members of the said congregation who dissent to such union as the continuing Evangelical and Reformed congregation, with all of the rights, privileges and responsibilities of such congregation.

Secretary's Report, 9/14-18/1958 - Appendix No. 3

DATA CONCERNING MINISTERS AND CONGREGATIONS OF THE CHURCH

MINISTERS

Received into Membership

Rev. Joseph J. Bevilacqua, New York, N. Y., by New York Synod on May 7, 1958, from the Congregational Christian Churches.

Rev. Ward J. Fellows, Kirkwood, Missouri, by Missouri Valley Synod, on April 23, 1958, from the Congregational Christian Churches.

Rev. George P. Fetterolf, Lehighton, Pennsylvania, by Lehigh Synod, on April 9, 1958. (Mr. Fetterolf was ordained by the Evangelical and Reformed Church in 1938. Was dropped from the roll under the five-year rule. Granted Privilege of Call, February 8-10, 1955; granted renewal of Privilege of Call, May 28, 1956.)

Rev. Richard H. Gardner, Canal Winchester, Ohio, by Southwest Ohio Synod, on August 1, 1958, from the Congregational Christian Churches.

Rev. Aubrun F. Haggard, Detroit, Michigan, by Northwest Ohio Synod on February 13, 1958, from the Congregational Christian Churches. (Transferred to Michigan-Indiana Synod.)

Rev. William M. Jay, Aspers, Pennsylvania, by Mercersburg Synod, on February 22, 1958, from the Congregational Christian Churches.

Rev. Tibor M. Szilagyi, Trenton, New Jersey, by Magyar Synod, on May 7, 1958, from the Hungarian Reformed Church.

Rev. Lowell H. Zuck, Webster Groves, Missouri, by Missouri Valley Synod, on May 8-9, 1957, from the Church of the Brethren.

Dismissed

Rev. Albert A. Petrich, Pflugerville, Texas, by Texas Synod, to the American Lutheran Church, June 1, 1958.

Rev. Matthew H. Thies, Detroit, Michigan, by Michigan-Indiana Synod, to the Presbyterian Church U. S. A., May 23, 1958.

Erased from the Roll

Rev. Joseph O. Gross, Jr., Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, by Philadelphia Synod, June 15, 1958.

Rev. Richard W. Rubright, Long Branch, New Jersey, by Southern Synod, May 27, 1958, in accordance with By-Law 34ab.

Rev. Calvin J. E. Stuebbe, Sutton, Nebraska, by Midwest Synod, May 13-14, 1958.

Rev. Victor P. Wierwille, Van Wert, Ohio, by Northwest Ohio Synod, May 22, 1958.

Secretary's Report, 9/14-18/1958 - Appendix No. 3

CONGREGATIONS

Received into Membership

Trinity Church, Lancaster, California, by California Synod, March 30, 1958.

Bethel United Church of Christ (Evangelical and Reformed), Manchester, Michigan by Michigan-Indiana Synod, May 6, 1958.

St. James Evangelical and Reformed Church, Saline, Michigan, by Michigan-Indiana Synod, April 18, 1958.

St. Paul's Evangelical and Reformed Church, Chelsea, Michigan, by Michigan-Indiana Synod, May 6, 1958.

Church of the Good Shepherd, Warren, Ohio, Northeast Ohio Synod, May 20, 1958.

St. Mark Church, Cleveland, Ohio, by Northeast Ohio Synod, May 20, 1958.

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church, Baltimore, Maryland, by Potomac Synod, April 18, 1958.

Magyar United Church of Christ of Central Florida, Lakeland, Florida, by Southern Synod, April 29, 1958.

Church of the Good Shepherd, Carbondale, Illinois, by South Illinois Synod, May 11, 1958.

Trinity Church, Louisville, Kentucky, by South Indiana Synod, May 20, 1958.

Dissolved

Emmanuel Church, Greenburr, Pennsylvania, by Central Pennsylvania Synod, April 29-30, 1958.

CHANGES IN SYNOD ROSTERS

Lancaster Synod

The Warwick Charge has been dissolved and the former constituents, Jerusalem Church, Penryn, Pennsylvania, and St. Luke's Church, Lititz, Pennsylvania, have been constituted separate charges.

Magyar Synod

The two Hungarian Churches of Kalamazoo, Michigan, have been merged. The name of the merged church is the United Church of Christ, located at 803 Mills Street.

Secretary's Report, 9/14-18/1958 - Appendix No. 3

Northwest Ohio Synod

Fort Seneca Church, Fort Seneca, Ohio, has changed its name to Community United Church of Christ.

Philadelphia Synod

Messiah Church and St. Andrew's Church, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, now constitute the Messiah-St. Andrew's Charge.

Southwest Ohio Synod

St. John's Church, Chillicothe, Ohio, a constituent of the Chillicothe Charge, has been merged with the Chillicothe Community Congregational Christian Church. The name of the merged church is Chillicothe United Church.

Texas Synod

Christ Church, Lockhart, Texas, has changed its name to St. Paul United Church of Christ.

Secretary's Report, 9/14-18/1958 - Appendix No. 4

ALLOCATION OF BENEVOLENT MONIES TO SUBORDINATE JUDICATORIES

The following is the report of an investigation which your Secretary carried on at the request of the Committee on Correlation and Promotion relative to the practices of major denominations in our country in allocating general benevolent monies to synods, conferences, presbyteries and dioceses or other local or subordinate organizations.

Correspondence was carried on with the United Lutheran Church in America, the United Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., the American Baptist Convention, the Methodist Church, the Protestant Episcopal Church and the International Convention of Christian Churches (Disciples of Christ).

The following is a resume of the practices as they presently exist within these denominations:

I. Disciples of Christ - Correspondent: Dr. Gaines Cook

Since 1935 the Disciples of Christ have operated under a plan of unified promotion. Within the International Convention there are five major boards and eleven smaller institutions and boards. Many of these boards have subordinate or affiliated units bringing the total to 87. Included in these smaller boards are 38 state societies and 32 colleges and seminaries affiliated with the Board of Higher Education.

Since 1935, 57 of the state and national organizations have entered into an agreement known as Unified Promotion. The other 30 continue to solicit funds competitively.

Procedure is as follows: A Commission on Brotherhood Finance composed of fifteen persons (five ministers, five laymen and five women) is elected by the International Convention to survey the needs of the 57 agencies. A full-time Research Director secures data from each organization and presents the total askings to the Brotherhood Finance Commission which meets three times each year. Each agency is allocated a budget consistent with its needs and funds are distributed through the Office of Unified Promotion.

Another Commission known as the Commission on Budgets and Promotional Relationships approves, disapproves or revises askings from the 30 non-Unified Promotion causes. These agencies solicit funds within an approved ceiling and receive nothing from the Unified Promotion Budget. Each participating board within Unified Promotion assumes responsibility toward the promotion of the total benevolent or missionary fund.

II. American Baptist Convention - Correspondent: Frank E. Johnston, Budget Adviser

A unified budget encompasses the work of the national organization as well as the State Conventions and City Mission Societies. These latter two participate in the Unified Budget on what is called the return percentage plan. Let me illustrate with a paragraph from Mr. Johnston's communication:

"Perhaps it will be clearest if I use an imaginary illustration. In the state of Ohio, we have about four hundred churches. These churches contribute to the Unified Budget of the American Baptist Convention. Let us say, for example, that in the year 1957, they contributed $500,000 to the Unified Budget. This total would include both designated and undesignated gifts. On the assumption that $400,000 represented the undesignated gifts and $100,000 represented the designated gifts, we would then be prepared to discover how much would be returned to the state of Ohio during the year. In the case of Ohio, they have a return percentage, based on the undesignated giving only, in the amount of twenty percent. Applying this principle to the above example, it would mean that during 1957, the state of Ohio would receive from the Unified Budget the amount of $80,000. This they would use to carry on their program and work."

The percentage can be raised or lowered in any given year by mutual agreement between the Finance Committee (National) and the state or society involved. There is an agreement that the return percentage neither be increased nor decreased more than two percent in any one year.

The State Convention prospers in direct proportion to the increase in undesignated giving within its area.

III. Protestant Episcopal Church - Correspondent: Dr. C. Rankin Barnes, Secretary of the National Council

"The Protestant Episcopal Church very definitely practices allocations to all of its Missionary Districts."

(a) Overseas Missionary Districts - Each is in charge of a bishop in residence. Appropriations are made to the district by the overseas department and are administered according to agreed procedure by the bishop of that Missionary District.

(b) Home Department - There is similar operation with regard to the twelve Missionary Districts in the western part of this country. Here, however, more discretion is given to the bishop of the District for distribution of appropriations than is the case with the Overseas Department.

(c) Allocations are made also to the 18 dioceses which have District missionary problems.

IV. Methodist Church - Correspondent: J. Homer Magee, Associate Secretary of Council on World Service and Finance of Methodist Church

There are approximately 100 annual Conferences of the Methodist Church in the United States. There is no provision for allocation from the general budget to the Annual Conferences.

Each Annual Conference has a Commission on World Service and Finance which recommends to the Annual Conference the financial policy of the Conference including both Conference needs and general, that is, denominational benevolences.

V. United Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. - Correspondent: Alexander E. Sharp, Administrative Secretary, Board of National Missions

The Board is represented by national missions' committees in all synods and presbyteries. There are administering units at the synod level and also in specially designated presbyteries meeting certain standards of diversification of program, size, financial stability and administrative potential.

More than $3 million are distributed to these units to cover their needs for aid to fields and field services and supervision. These allocations are made on the basis of carefully prepared estimates which are presented to the National Committee for study.

VI. United Lutheran Church in America - Correspondent: F. Eppling Reinartz, Secretary

"The practice of the United Lutheran Church agrees almost totally with the practice of your own Church in the matter of allocating funds from the benevolent budget of the general church to the synods of our church. All of our ULCA funds, like the funds of your general jurisdiction, are budgeted for the boards, agencies and departments of the general church to cover their several services. Some of these boards, of course, aid in the work of synods, such as home missions, grants-in-aid to some of the colleges and seminaries owned and operated by the synods, small grants-in-aid to social missions committees in the early years of their operation in the synods, and some subsidy of the newly developing evangelism units in our synods."

Commentary

A study of the practices as they existed in the several denominations with which questions were raised would seem to indicate that the practices concerning allocations of benevolent monies to subordinate judicatories varies from denomination to denomination. This, of course, is to be expected.

In each instance under investigation it would seem quite evident that the practices which presently exist have grown up over a long period of years and after some lengthy experiment. It is obvious, also, that practices as they exist in the several denominations have been influenced in some part by the type of polity which exists in these denominations.

There is certainly nothing definitive in these practices, as we study them, which would cause us to make any drastic changes in our practices. However, there is some evidence that several of these denominations have followed the practice, within controlled limits, of directing some of their denominational benevolent monies to subordinate judicatories. Apparently in these instances these denominations have found this procedure to be quite satisfactory. It may be that we can find some guidance for any change in practice which we might wish to suggest. From my point of view, the approach of the American Baptist Convention certainly seems to have some merit, as does the procedure followed by the United Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A. I do not believe that we could incorporate the type of prac-

tice which exists within the Protestant Episcopal Church because, as I see it, this practice depends upon the office of the Bishop within the Episcopal Church. Here polity controls practice. The Methodist Church seems to have a procedure which is just about the same as our own. This is true also of the United Lutheran Church. There is also much similarity between our procedure and that of the Disciples of Christ even though different terminology is used.

In any event a study of the procedures followed by these several denominations ought to help us to make whatever proposals we might wish to make to the General Council, and thereafter, to the General Synod. It is possible, of course, that we will not want to make any suggestions or changes in our present practice.

Since the study reported upon above grew out of a proposal made by North Illinois Synod, we will need to give a report to the North Illinois Synod on whatever the findings of the General Council may be and whatever actions this body may take.

Appendix No. 5

SCHEDULE OF SPRING MEETINGS OF SYNODS - 1959

California	April 28-30	Church of the Good Shepherd, 19000 Saticoy St. Reseda, California - Rev. Douglas P. Koehler	Albert G. Gonser
Central Pennsylvania	April 28-30	St. Luke's Church, Lock Haven, Pennsylvania Rev. Roy W. Limbert	John R. C. Haas
Dakota	May 20-21	Salem Reformed Church, Menno, South Dakota Rev. Erich Kaempchen	Erwin R. Koch
East Pennsylvania	May 5-6	St. Peter's Church, R. D. No. 1, Pen Argyle, Plainfield Charge - Rev. Richard Druckenbrod	Sheldon E. Mackey
Kansas City	April 14-16	Zion E & R Church, St. Joseph, Missouri Rev. Donald J. W. Burkhalter	John W. Flucke
Lancaster	April 21-22	Tulpehocken, Trinity Church, R. D. No. 1 Richland, Pa. - Rev. J. Donald Backenstose	James E. Wagner
Lehigh	June 3-4	Cedar Crest College, Allentown, Pennsylvania	Sheldon E. Mackey
Magyar	May 5-7	West Side Hungarian Church, 1946 W. 32nd St., Cleveland 13, Ohio - Rev. Matthias Daroczy	James E. Wagner
Mercersburg	May 12-13	Christ Church (Starview), R. No. 1, Mt. Wolf, Pennsylvania - Rev. Harold Henning	Mrs. Milton Lang
Michigan-Indiana	May 5-7	Salem Church, Fort Wayne, Indiana Rev. Willard H. Zinke	Emil N. Krafft
Midwest	May 13-14	St. John's Church, Ackley, Iowa Rev. Frank C. Kroll	Ben M. Herbster
Missouri Valley	April 21-23	St. Paul's E & R Church, St. Louis, Missouri Revs. Erwin and Paul J. Bode	Emil N. Krafft
New York	May 5-7	Martha Memorial Church, 419 W. 52nd St., N. Y. Rev. Joseph J. Bevilacqua	John R. C. Haas
Northeast Ohio	May 19-20	Immanuel Church, 20120 Lomond Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio - Rev. Milton D. Jones (Shaker Heights)	V. Milton Rasche
Northern	April 17-19		John W. Mueller
North Illinois	May 5-7		John R. C. Haas
Northwest Ohio	May 21-22		John W. Flucke
North Wisconsin	May 12-13	First Congregational Church, 1609 University Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin	James E. Wagner
Pacific Northwest	May 5-7		Albert G. Gonser

Philadelphia	May 19-20	Christ Church, Norristown, Pennsylvania Rev. Harold C. Baer	Sheldon E. Mackey
Pittsburgh	May 20-21	St. Paul's Church, Sharon, Pennsylvania Rev. William Earle D. Wynn	Joseph C. Wetzel
Potomac	June 10-13	Hood College, Frederick, Maryland	Donald C. Dearborn
Reading	May 19-20	Christ Church, Temple, Pennsylvania Rev. John C. Shelter	John W. Flucke
Rocky Mountain	May 12-14	St. Paul's Church, Lakewood, Denver, Colorado - Rev. Leonard A. Stark	Albert G. Gonser
Southeast Ohio	April 23-24	St. John's E & R Church, Millersburg, Ohio Rev. Charles O. Zechiel	Willard A. Kratz
Southern	April 28-29	Trinity Church, Concord, North Carolina Rev. Banks J. Peeler	Joseph C. Wetzel
South Illinois	May 5-6	St. Peter's Church, Granite City, Illinois Rev. Robert J. Bauman	Willard A. Kratz
South Indiana	April 7-9	St. Mark Church, New Albany, Indiana Rev. Theodore N. Tiemeyer	Donald C. Dearborn
Southwest Ohio	May 18-20	St. John's Church, Columbus, Ohio Revs. A. R. Detwiler and R. E. Schluer	George C. Ellerbrake
South Wisconsin	May 12-13	Memorial Church, Madison, Wisconsin Rev. William Schultz	James E. Wagner
Susquehanna	April 28-29	First Church, Sunbury, Pennsylvania Rev. Grant E. Harrity	Ben M. Herbster
Texas	April 21-23	Community CC Church, 3705 Euclid Avenue, Dallas, Texas - Rev. Thompson L. Shannon	Mrs. E. Roy Corman
West New York	May 19-21	St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Erie, Pennsylvania - Dr. Willard A. Kratz	Thomas D. Garner

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ZONAL ASSIGNMENTS - 1958 FALL MEETINGS OF SYNODS

GROUP I - National Missions, Evangelism, Business Management

Magyar:
September 21, Eastern - South Norwalk, Connecticut
Rev. Andrew Harto, 221 Lexington Avenue
September 28, Western - East Chicago, Indiana
Rev. Kalma Csia, 4822 Kennedy Avenue
October 5, Central - Homestead, Pennsylvania
Rev. Julius Paal, 416 Tenth Ave., Munhall, Pa.
October 13, Lakeside - Toledo, Ohio
Rev. Dr. Joseph Zsiros, 1946 Bakewell Street

Mercersburg:
September 23, Zion Church, Cleveland Ave. and Lafayette St.
York, Pennsylvania

Michigan-Indiana:
September 22, Fort Wayne Region - Salem Church, Fort Wayne
September 23, South Bend Region - St. John's Church, Niles, Mich.
September 24, Ann Arbor Region - St. James Church, Saline Twp.
September 25, Detroit Region - St. Mark's Church, Detroit

North Illinois:
October 6, Western Suburbs of Chicago
October 7, St. Peter's Church, Champaign, Illinois
October 8, Southern Suburbs of Chicago
October 9, Chicago
October 10, Freeport Area

South Indiana:
October 20, Indianapolis Area - Zion, Warren Township
October 21, Louisville Area - Christ Church, 3108 Verne Court
October 22, Ala.-Tenn. Area - St. John Church, Cullman, Ala.
October 23, Evansville Area - Zoar Church, Rt. 9, New Harmony Way, Evansville, Ind.

Potomac:
October 12, Shenandoah Valley - St. John's Church, Edinburg, Va.
October 13, Western Maryland - Christ Church, Hagerstown, Md.
October 14, Baltimore - Grace Church, Baltimore, Md.

South Illinois:
October 14, Christ Church, Dupo
October 15, St. John, Plum Hill
October 16, Immanuel, Hamel

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ZONAL ASSIGNMENTS - 1958 FALL MEETINGS OF SYNODS

GROUP II - International Missions, Pensions and Relief, Women's Guild

Central Pennsylvania:	October 16, Trinity Church, 20 Oak St., Lewistown, Pa.
Dakota:	September 24, Wishek Reformed Church, Wishek, North Dakota
East Pennsylvania:	October 17, Salem Church, Catasuaqua, Pennsylvania
Northern:	October 5, St. Lucas, Lake Elmo, Minn. October 6, St. Paul, Eyota, Minn. October 7, St. Paul, Welcome, Minn. October 8, Long Prairie, Minn. October 9, Bethel, Judson, North Dakota
North Wisconsin:	September 30, Peace E & R Church, Fall Creek, Wisconsin October 1, St. John's E & R Church, Black Creek, Wisconsin October 2, Salem E & R Church, R. 1, Plymouth, Wisconsin
Reading:	October 15, St. Paul's Church, Fleetwood, Pennsylvania
Philadelphia:	October 14, Glenside United Church of Christ, Glenside, Pa.
Susquehanna:	October 21, Zion Church, Ashland, Pennsylvania
South Wisconsin:	October 7, Eastern Section - Bethel, Milwaukee, Wisc. October 8, Central Section - October 9, Western Section - Belleville, Wisc.

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ZONAL ASSIGNMENTS - 1958 FALL MEETINGS OF SYNODS

GROUP III - Christian Education & Publication - Higher Education, Stewardship, Church and Ministry

Kansas City:
October 13, Zion Church, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
October 14, St. Paul Church, Holyrood, Kansas
October 15, Evangelical Church, Marysville, Kansas
October 16, Zion Church, Mayview, Missouri
October 17, St. Paul Church, Pilot Grove, Missouri

Missouri Valley:
October 12 (afternoon and evening) St. Paul's Church Hermann, Missouri
October 13, Emmanuel Church, Weldon Spring, Missouri
October 14, Faith-Salem Church, St. Louis, Missouri
October 16, St. Paul's Church, Little Rock, Arkansas, or a church in the Springfield area

Pittsburgh:
September 14, Somerset Area, St. Paul's Church, Wilhelm Charge, R. D. #1, Meyersdale, Pa.
September 21, Butler Area, Immanuel Church, Ellwood City, Pa.
September 21, St. Paul's Area, St. Paul's Church, Sharon, Pa.
September 28, Clarion Area, St. Peter's Church, Dubois, Pa.
October 12, Allegheny Area, First Church, McKeesport, Pa.
October 12, Westmoreland Area, Trinity Church, Delmont, Pa.
(NOTE: All meetings will be held on Sunday afternoons and evenings. Where two meetings are held on the same day, the leaders will alternate from afternoon to evening.)

Northeast Ohio:
September 23, Hungarian Church, 3036 Glove Avenue, Lorain, O.

Northwest Ohio:
September 25, St. Paul's Church, Oak Harbor
September 26, St. Paul's Church, New Bremen

Southeast Ohio:
September 24, St. John's E & R Church, Massillon, Ohio

Southwest Ohio:
September 23, St. John's, Bellevue, Kentucky
September 24, St. John's, Newark, Ohio

Texas:
October 19, Salem, New Orleans, La.
October 20, Friedens, Beasley, Texas
October 21, Faith, Bryan, Texas
October 22, St. Paul's, Gibolo, Texas
October 23, St. Paul's, Marlin, Texas

West New York:
September 30, St. James United Church of Christ, 76 Main Street, Hamburg, New York

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ZONAL ASSIGNMENTS - 1958 FALL MEETINGS OF SYNODS

GROUP IV - Christian Social Action, World Service, Churchmen's Brotherhood

California:	September 30, St. Mark's, 514 - 58th Street, Oakland, California October 2, Seaside Community, 22902 Ocean Avenue, Torrance, California
Lancaster:	October 14, St. Andrew's, Lancaster, Pennsylvania
Lehigh:	October 15, Cedar, Cetronia, 3419 Linden Street, Allentown, Pa.
Midwest:	October 5, St. Paul, West Burlington, Iowa October 6, First Church, Cedar Rapids, Iowa October 7, Peace, Gladbrook, Iowa October 8, Friedens, Schleswig, Iowa October 9, Friedens, Seward, Nebraska October 10, Salem, Steinaver, Nebraska
New York:	October 12, 2:00 p.m., Zion's Church, Taborton, N. Y. October 19, 2:00 p.m., St. Paul's Church, Garwood, N. J.
Pacific Northwest:	September 23, United Church, Quincy, Washington September 25, Zion Church, Gresham, Oregon
Rocky Mountain:	September 23, St. John's, 400 - 11th Street, Greeley, Colorado September 25, Christ Church, Hardin, Montana
Southern:	October 21, Catawba College, Salisbury, North Carolina

BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS
Information Sheet for the General Council
September, 1958

There are to be 24 new churches started in 1958,--four more than in 1957. This falls short of our high expectations. However, the two year total of 44 is only one less than the total of the previous three years.

Our increased receipts have been of tremendous help, but the problem of adequate financing is still with us. So far we have managed to stay within our budget, although costs and salaries have increased. We must now promote the Loaned Church Building Fund as a means of broadening our credit base for new church construction. The Board has taken action to change a few of the provisions of the Fund, establishing the interest rate at 3%, making the minimum unit $100, and fixing interest rates to congregations borrowing from the Fund at 4% for 3-year loans, and 4½% for 5-year loans. Key laymen in the synods will be briefed and stimulated to keep their churches, organizations and individuals informed.

Suggestions made by President Rest of North Illinois Synod and overtures from Mercersburg and Potomac Synods, as well as our own experience, led to the study of our financing regulations. The Board has requested definite recommendations on such matters as the subordination of the first mortgage liens, higher interest rates, monthly repayment plans, and the like. These require careful study. Proposals have been made also for new plans to assist local purchasing of parsonages.

Mr. Timm has taken hold of our Finance Advisory Service with skill and enthusiasm and is devoting the major share of his time to this work, although accepting what would be a half-time salary. His first two projects, at Hayshire Church, York, Pennsylvania, and at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Sacramento, California, succeeded admirably.

Our other new staff personnel, Messrs, Greene, Weber, Burchardt and Lippy, are bringing real abilities to the service of the churches and growing in their respective offices. It is worthy of note that the Congregational Christian Board of Home Missions, in naming Rev. Serge Hummon, formerly Assistant Superintendent, Wisconsin State Conference, as their Town and Country Secretary, specifically indicated that he was to be associated with Rev. Shirley Greene of our staff and to regard Mr. Greene as the senior secretary in their cooperating capacities.

An agreement respecting the support of new congregations to be started jointly by Congregational Christian and Evangelical and Reformed agencies has been reached and will be presented to you at this meeting. The principal points to note are that the administration and support are to be divided on a 50-50 basis, that the minister and congregation are to have dual relationships to the cooperating bodies, but that members will joint the United Church of Christ, with 50% of their number being reported in each denomination's statistics.

It is expected that the statement "Proposed Policy on the Union Church" will be approved by the Executive Committee of our Board and submitted to your meeting. This has to do with the sithation of the Evangelical and Reformed-Lutheran union congregations and represents a fully cooperative administrative approach.

One of the synods has called attention to a recommendation of the Committee on Constitutional Matters that "the Board of National Missions enter into contracts for reimbursement on grants or subsidies in the event the recipient withdraws from the denomination." Due attention will be given to this in regard to subsidies. Such contracts are already in effect as to grants.

Purd E. Deitz
General Secretary

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BOARD OF INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

Report to the General Council - September 15-18, 1958

During the current year five joint secretarial staff meetings of the Board of International Missions and the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions were held at Boston. During these consultations the different methods of administrative procedures within our two mission programs were reviewed.

1) Five members of the Executive Committee of the Board of International Missions serve on the Prudential Committee of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions and are invited to attend the ten monthly meetings.

2) The integration of the administration of the Far East secretarial portfolios of our two Boards is rapidly taking place. Rev. Paul R. Gregory is now secretary for the work of the American Board and the Board of International Missions in Japan, Hong Kong, Philippines and Okinawa.

3) Miss Margaret R. Blemker of the American Board now serves as associate secretary in charge of the Board of International Missions program in Iraq.

4) Rev. Herbert O. Muenstermann, personnel secretary of the Board of International Missions, returned to his office in Philadelphia about May 1, after a five-month field assignment in Ghana. Mr. Muenstermann is encouraged by the number of young people now manifesting interest in overseas Christian service. In cooperation with the Commission on Church and Ministry, the overseas challenge for Christian service is being presented to young people. Twenty-two missionaries have been appointed by the Board during the current triennium.

5) With regard to the proposed integration of the International Missionary Council and the World Council of Churches, the Board of International Missions has voted to express "its willingness to participate in the implementation of those plans in such ways as may be appropriate for its responsibilities in the Christian world mission."

6) Selected Field Items:

INDIA	(a)Continuing to undergird Governing Bodies of Hospitals, Schools, Gass Memorial Center, Social Welfare Agencies, Literature and Visual Aids.
HONDURAS	(a)Completing Normal School Building program. (b)Developing Social Service Project in LaLima; Christian Lit. ....
AFRICA	(a)Strengthening work in French Togo. (b)Completing plans for rural extension program and training school for nurses in Ghana.
JAPAN	(a)New Labor-church retreats, publishing, union and factory chaplains in growing industrial evangelism program. (b)Crash program of rural evangelism in North Honshu. (c)Developing of church bldg. fund equal to seizing initiative in high-potential areas.
OKINAWA	(a)Developing medical program of rural center with full-time physician and missionary nurse for mobile unit. (b)Rural extension work both in Okinawa and Yaeyama island group.
HONG KONG	(a)New overseas scholarship program to meet desperate need for trained leaders. (b)Additional rooftop school; expanded ministry to refugees and in slum areas.
ECUADOR	(a)Enlarging rural extension program of evangelistic, agricultural and health ministries from the Picalqui and Uyumbicho centers.
IRAQ	(a)The B.I.M. shares in the United Mission in Iraq to the extent of 20% of all costs. The operating budget for 1959 calls for a 20% share of just over $100,000. "New personnel is the present greatest need if the Mission is to survive."

September 1, 1958

Dobbs F. Ehlman

REPORT ON ACTIVITIES BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND PUBLICATION
for the Committee on Correlation and Promotion of the General Council

The National Conference on Christian Education was held at Purdue University, August 19-22, 1958, with more than 3,000 full-time and part-time delegates present from all parts of the United Church of Christ.

The Reverend Mel F. Ludwig, of Evansville, Ind., will become editor of leadership education materials on October 1, 1958, to succeed Lael Henderson who will become a book editor with Christian Education Press.

Youth, a bi-weekly magazine for young people, became a joint publication of Christian Education Press and Pilgrim Press on October 11, 1957. Church School Worker, a monthly magazine for workers in the church schools, becomes a joint publication with the September 1958 issue. Children's Religion, a monthly magazine for children's workers, becomes a joint publication with the October 1958 issue. Joint advisory committees, representing staff personnel of our two educational agencies, plan basic policies for each of these publications and make suggestions for the development of the various issues.

Plans for the United Church Curriculum are proceeding according to schedule. New Nursery materials will be published for use in the fall of 1960; Kindergarten materials will be published for use in the fall of 1961. All other materials will be ready for use by the fall of 1963. The services of Mr. James Pfeuffer, of the Rhode Island School of Design, Providence, R.I., have been engaged by our two publishing agencies to help design all curriculum materials and thus insure the highest possible standards of excellence in format and layout.

A leadership program to serve the field needs of the entire United Church has been projected. At the Purdue Conference representatives of synodical committees on Christian education and state directors of Christian education held a series of meetings to consider and to further refine these plans. In January 1959 all staff members, synodical chairmen and state directors will meet at Buck Hill Falls to work out detailed leadership and field plans for the United Church of Christ.

In December 1958 a joint staff meeting of our two educational agencies will be held at Fernbrook, near Pottstown, Pa., to consider ways of integrating staff field assignments and work in areas other than editorial. Editorial assignments have already been integrated.

Following are some of the items that have appeared under joint imprint: A series of leadership education leaflets; age-group charts; a Statement of Educational Principles as seen in the Light of Christian Theology and Beliefs; Nursery, Kindergarten and Primary Portfolios; a listing of adult elective courses; and a portfolio on youth work under the title - Hi - Fellowship Set. Other items are in course of production.

The first joint National Council of Youth Fellowships in the United Church was held at Union Theological Seminary, New York City, June 20-27, 1958, with 332 youth delegates and their adult leaders present. See attached booklet - Together - for a report of this meeting.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF BUSINESS MANAGEMENT
July 18, 1958

To the Members of General Council:

The Spring Meeting of the Board convened at Chicago, Illinois in the Sherman Hotel. Dr. Sheldon Mackey was present for all sessions. The usual business of the Board was acted on and all audited financial reports of the various agencies of the Board were studied and approved.

Special items of the business of the Board are as follows:

Deeply regretting the illness of Rev. Press, the Board submitted the following resolutions to General Council in respect to the publication of "Der Friedensbote":

It was voted that in view of Rev. Press' retiring as Editor of "Der Friedensbote" as of December 31, 1958, the Board recommend to General Council that "Der Friedensbote" be discontinued as of December 31, 1958.

In view of Rev. Press' illness it was voted to recommend to the General Council that the Rev. W. G. Mauch be engaged to edit "Der Friedensbote" for the balance of the year at a salary of $75 per issue plus necessary traveling expenses incurred in this position.

It was voted to thank Dr. H. Wernecke for his offer of the possibility of continuing the spirit of the printing of "Der Friedensbote" by incorporating its contents with "Die Abendstunde", a publication of which he is Editor, but that the Board does not favor the acceptance of this offer.

Another item of special notice is:

That the Board voted to gratefully and thankfully receive the gift of $10,000 made it by the Board of Eden Publishing House from its net earnings for the year ending February 1, 1958 and turn it over to the General Council with the recommendation by Eden that this money go to the Board of Pensions and Relief of the Church.

The Board is happy to announce the well-known fact that the publication of the two church papers of the C.C.Church and the E. & R. Church has been united and that in October the first edition of the UNITED CHURCH HERALD will be published.

This unification was made in a compromise measure, the details of which cannot be incorporated in this report, but which the Board is satisfied will work to the good of both denominations.

An Executive Committee of six members was elected to be charged with the details of the publication of the new journal. The C.C. representation is Dr. Truman B. Douglass, Dr. James W. Lenhart and Mrs. George E. Kahlenberg; the E.&.R. representation is Dr. Erwin R. Koch, Mr. William C. Mingle and Dr. Robert C. Kienle.

The Board announces that together with the Commission on Evangelism it will print in 1960 a joint devotional guide, "DAILY TALKS - DAILY DEVOTIONS" with the C. C. Church. Mr. William Pelster represents the Board on this joint Editorial Committee.

REPORT OF COMMISSION ON EVANGELISM

Since the last meeting of General Council, February 1958, the Commission on Evangelism launched a new program of evangelism called the Teaching-Reaching-Preaching Mission (TRPM). The first pilot project was conducted in Allentown, Pennsylvania, with 18 of our churches actively participating, February 3-15. The program and results of the Mission appeared in an article by Dr. James W. Bright in the April issue of THE ADVANCE ADVOCATE.

At the present time missions are being scheduled in the following regions of Synods zoned to the Commission for the Fall and Winter of 1958-1959:

October 24-31	Freeport, Illinois, North Illinois Synod
October 24-31	Western Maryland, Potomac Synod
October 24-31	Bloomington, Illinois, North Illinois Synod
November 7-14	Metropolitan Chicago, North Illinois Synod
November 14-21	York, Pennsylvania, Mercersburg Synod
January 9-16	Evansville, Indiana, South Indiana Synod
January 16-23	Ft. Wayne, Indiana, Michigan-Indiana Synod
January 16-23	Elkhard, Indiana, Michigan-Indiana Synod
January 23-30	Shippenburg, Pennsylvania, Mercersburg Synod
January 30-Feb. 6	Detroit, Michigan, Michigan-Indiana Synod

In addition to the above work our staff has made itineraries of Synods zoned to the Commission for the zonal year 1957-1958, and directed a number of Visitation efforts in local churches and by groups of churches in concerted community programs.

Consultations of Joint E & R - CC Committees on Daily Devotional guides and on Evangelism, in general, have been held and progress in correlating our interests and cooperative work is to be noted.

Most of our attention, programing, field work, and budget are now being concentrated on and earmarked for the further development and implementation of the TRPM in Synods assigned to the Commission in the next and ensuing years.

We hope the Committee on Correlation and Promotion and the General Council will heartily endorse and commend our Evangelism Mission (TRPM) to the churches, and so help us to enlist their participation when the Missions are scheduled for their Synods and regions.

Fred C. S hweinfurth
Executive Secretary

August 20, 1958
Commission on Church & Ministry
2969 West 25th Street
Cleveland 13, Ohio

Report to the General Council

A. The problem of life enlistment is being met on several different fronts.

1. The distant future is being met in terms of the status and position of the minister himself, working through consistories, through pastor's conferences, etc. Unconsciously, the young person in the congregation accepts or rejects the ministry as a result of the way he sees his own minister being treated within the congregation and the community.

2. The second "front" is that of reaching young people themselves, through life enlistment conferences, in youth rallies, and summer camps and conferences. The usual means of personal confrontation and the dissemination of literature and other mass communication devices are utilized.

3. A third way is that of the minister sending us names of promising material with letters going out immediately to these persons.

4. Still another way is that of reaching college age young people who are already apparently set in another direction, but who, as topnotch candidates for the ministry in the consideration of their pastor, would consider a week-end study of the ministry. Conferences such as the Lancaster Seminary Conference and others are held annually.

B. An associate secretary position having been approved by General Council in February, the Commission has sought a person over the past eight months. The personnel committee has proceeded cautiously. Three persons are at present under consideration. Before any final choice is made, the Commission will communicate with the Administrative Committee of the General Council.

C. A major forward step was taken on August 5, in the decision to set up a special school for pastors on sabbatical leave. Providing courses at academic credit level, the school will be open for E. & R. and Congregational ministers seven years or more out of seminary. Refresher courses will be given by top leaders in theology, biblical studies, the various aspects of pastoral care, and the sociology of the parish. The School for Ministers on Sabbatical Leave, will extend from June 16 to July 16, 1959, will offer twelve hours of academic credit towards the S.T.M. degree, and is a joint venture of the theological seminaries, the Board of National Mission's Committee on City Church and Urban Strategy, and the Commission on Church and Ministry. The dean of the school is Dr. Bela Vassady. Support for the school will come from the seminaries themselves, from the Commission, from the Board of National Missions, and possibly other sources.

D. The theological seminaries have been reminded, and in one or more publications the church has been reminded that our three theological seminaries are be taxed to the fullest during the next six years in training theological students. A tabulation of the number of students under care in the various synods, according to their years in school, means that we will have between ninety and one hundred students in each year in our theological schools for the next six years. This compares with an average for the past ten yaars of something under sixty-five.

E. At the request of a relatively large number of Synod Presidents, a Code of Ethics for Ministers has been for two years in process of preparation, receiving criticism from Synod Presidents, Chairmen of Synodical Committees on Church and Ministry, and others. Publication date: this winter. As a corollary to that, A Code for the Congregation was developed and sent to all pastors. It has been judged most helpful. A copy of the Code for the Congregation is attached.

F. All other activities of the Commission proceed apace, with new opportunities for service constantly opening up. We are grateful for the Lord's blessing of this work.

Respectfully submitted,
Harold Wilke,
Executive Secretary

HW:GK

THE COMMISSION ON STEWARDSHIP

A Report to the General Council - September, 1958

The Annual Meeting of the Commission on Stewardship was held at Elmhurst College, Elmhurst, Illinois, June 10-12. All members were present with the exception of David Gockley of the Youth Fellowship. General Council's representative, Dr. Emil Krafft, was also unable to attend.

The meeting was held jointly with the Commission on Stewardship of the Congregational Christian Churches. A joint statement on the place of Stewardship in the United Church of Christ was prepared by a special committee and submitted to the Committee on Constitution.

Eight Synodical Chairmen of Committees on Stewardship attended the sessions as observers and consultants. This was in keeping with a policy of inviting a third of the Synodical Chairmen to the Annual Meeting each year.

A service of installation for the new Executive Secretary of the Commission was held in connection with the meeting at St. Peter's Church in Elmhurst.

The Commission adopted a plan for a special three-month intensive emphasis on tithing for the fall of 1959. The plan calls for engaging Rev. Henry S. Raab of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in a visitation to congregations to speak to them about tithing following a pattern of presentation that has proved very successful in his own church.

The Commission also adopted a four-year plan of emphasis to guide it in its program through 1962 as follows:

1959 - Tithing	1961 - Teach Stewardship
1960 - Preach Stewardship	1962 - Wills Emphasis

The theme for the Stewardship Project for 1960, selected by the Commission is "Christian Stewardship Strengthens Today's Family."

Mrs. John Frantz was selected as Chairman of the Commission. She becomes the first woman to serve as a chairman of any of the Boards or Commissions of the denomination. Rev. L. Meid Becker was elected Vice-Chairman. The new member from the Youth Fellowship is Miss Verna Shaefer of Edwardsville, Illinois.

Submitted by

Paul E. Strauch
Executive Secretary

THE CHURCHMEN'S BROTHERHOOD

a - Our Purpose:

Our name is the CHURCHMEN'S BROTHERHOOD. This indicates that we are an organization of church men, interested primarily in the church.

We seek to develop informed, devoted, participating churchmen.

We believe that every christian is a "minister". Some minister as pastors, some as salesmen, some as politicians, some as labor leaders, some as farmers, etc.

We believe that the church is "The People of Christ" wherever they are, whatever their work.

We believe -

1 - our men can and must be taught more about the organized church;
2 - our men can and must be used more in the program of the organized church if the church is to function at full strength.

b - Our Organization:

We are organized into -

1 - local chapters in local churches;
2 - federations in synods; and -
3 - the National Churchmen's Brotherhood.

In local chapters, men organize to help the local church and to train and use the men in its program.

In areas or synods, the federation brings men together for rallies, retreats, workshops, tours, for fellowship, inspiration, meditation, study and training.

The National Organization:

1 - supplies materials;
2 - sends a monthly paper to each member of each local chapter;
3 - trains leaders - national keymen;
4 - sets up national meetings like, "The Churchman As a Citizen" held at Collegeville, Pennsylvania, June 20th - 22nd, 1958;
5 - sponsors mission tours - national and international;
6 - sets up Men's Sunday - and an annual national project.

We are governed by representatives of the men themselves meeting in national convention once every four years.

A national Board governs between conventions. It is composed of five men elected by the convention, four elected by General Synod, and two elected by the national Board itself.

Our budget for 1958 is $38,825.00, of which we receive $8,000.00 from the apportionment budget of General Synod. The balance is received from voluntary contributions.

Our work is done by volunteer keymen, federation presidents, etc., only one paid man in the entire organization - the Executive Secretary.

c - Our Growth:

65 new chapters in 1952;
75 new chapters in 1953;
80 new chapters in 1954;
86 new chapters in 1955;
73 new chapters in 1956;
62 new chapters in 1957;
To date-41 new chapters in 1958.

From 625 to 1,000 chapters in the past eight years. This in a denomination of 2,740 churches.

Now a total of over 75 federations, 25 of which are new in the past eight years.

(Churchmen's Brotherhood National Office, 1720 Chouteau Avenue, St. Louis 3, Mo.)

REPORT TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL ON CHANGES IN
THE PLAN OF THE LOANED CHURCH BUILDING FUND
of the
BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS

At the meeting of the Board of National Missions held in York, Pennsylvania, May 20, 1958, the following was recorded, in essence:

The Special Committee to Study the Loaned Church Building Fund presented their report in mimeograph form containing certain recommendations. These recommendations were considered separately. The following were approved:

1. That the interest rate to investors should be established at 3% (previously the rate had been at the discretion of the investor from zero to 3%). This new fixed interest rate was to be offered to previous investors, if they cared to take advantage of it.

2. The minimum investment, formerly set at $500, to be reduced to $100. Beyond the minimum, the investments should be in multiples of $100.

3. In loaning this money to churches, three-year loans are to bear 4% interest; five-year loans, 4½% interest.

4. Definite steps are being taken to advertise this fund through the pages of The Messenger, and also to set up an active committee of one layman from each synod. A central meeting of these committee members will be held toward the close of the year in order to set up an educational program which will reach into congregations to acquaint the churches with this need.

The Finance Committee of the Board had approved these recommendations. They are now brought to the attention of the General Council.

Purd E. Deitz,
General Secretary

PED:ab
Dated: July 29, 1958

August 20, 1958
Commission on Church and Ministry
2969 West 25th Street
Cleveland 13, Ohio

REPORT TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL ON HEALTH INSURANCE

After two meetings of the Joint Study Committee, the first on June 4, 1958 and the second on August 6, 1958, both at the Schaff Building in the office of Dr. Silas Bittner, Philadelphia, Pa., with representatives of the Pastoral Relations Committee of the Commission on Church and Ministry and Board of Pensions and Relief participating, as well as experts in the field of hospitalization insurance, and with the valuable advice of Mr. Norman A. Schowalter, the following recommendations for general principles have been approved:

First: The Committee favors a plan including:

a. Hospitalization insurance.
b. Surgical and Medical insurance
c. Possibly group term life insurance, but currently does not recommend any form of income protection insurance for the protection of income during disability.

Second: The Committee favors uniform general coverage throughout the denomination for all ministers rather than Synodical insurance coverage.

Third: The Committee favors participation by employer and employee, the basis of participation to be determined by the General Synod but with the Committee's feeling that the approximate participation ideally is 50-50%.

Fourth: The Committee favors continuation of said insurance for retiring (either by reason of age or health) ministers.

Fifth: The Committee recommends that serious consideration should also be given to the inclusion of ministers already retired as participants in such plan.

Sixth: The Committee recommends that serious consideration should also be given to the inclusion of the families of deceased ministers.

Seventh: Specifications for such insurance because of its complexities should be withheld pending an opportunity upon the part of the Committee to study the same further for report to the February meeting of General Council.

Eight: The attached Schedule A constitutes the type of coverage which the Committee recommends as desirable.

Ninth: The Committee requests General Council to allot time for presentation of the Committee's study at the meetings of the General Council on September 15, 1958 and February 1, 1959.

Tenth: The Committee requests that General Council allot time at the General Synod in July, 1959, for discussion of its proposals and possible adoption by General Synod.

Notation: It was moved and seconded that the Committee instruct Dr. Wilke to present the overall picture of the insurance program outlined by the Committee to the Synod Presidents on November 5 and 6, 1958, in person, and before September 15th by correspondence. Motion duly carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Board of Pensions and Relief
Commission on Church and Ministry
(Signed) Harold Wilke

COMMISSION ON CHRISTIAN SOCIAL ACTION
COMMISSION ON CHURCH AND MINISTRY
2969 West 25th Street
Cleveland 13, Ohio

August 1, 1958

To the General Council of the Evangelical and
Reformed Church

The General Council in February, 1957 took action referring to the Commission on Christian Social Action and the Commission on Church and Ministry, for study and recommendation, the practice of the local church in regard to "mixed marriages" between members of the church and Roman Catholics.

We would call the attention of the General Council to the statement on Inter-faith Marriage adopted by the General Synod of the Evangelical and Reformed Church in 1953 after a three-year period of study by the Commission on Christian Social Action, made at the request of the General Synod. In the preparation of this statement representative ministers and lay members of the church were consulted.

It is our judgment that this statement, which appears in the Acts and Proceedings of the Ninth Meeting of the General Synod, pages 268-271, and is also available as a printed leaflet at 5¢ each, $3 per 100, from the Commission on Christian Social Action, provides the guidance requested. We would suggest that General Council call attention to this statement and urge its use by pastors and congregations in their educational and counseling programs.

Attached hereto is a copy of the General Synod statement of 1953.

Fraternally yours,

Harold H. Wilke, Executive Secretary
Commission on Church and Ministry

Huber F. Klemme, Executive Secretary
Commission on Christian Social Action

HHW/HFK/mk

PROPOSED POLICY ON THE UNION CHURCH

In a practical way, we seek to increase the response of the Union Church to the causes of Jesus Christ. In some instances, this will mean closer cooperation between the two congregations. In others, this finer response will be sought through the dissolution of large and financially substantial union congregations. To achieve this holy objective, it may be helpful, in some cases, to exchange buildings to provide sole use of a church structure to one denomination. In the main, however, progress in the Kingdom will be made as both members of the union arrangement promote the programs of their respective denominations. We will attempt to meet the situations that come before us on the basis of their particular needs. To this end the following policy has been formulated:

1. That each congregation be incorporated separately, and have its own corporate administrative body - Church Council or Consistory; and congregations hold the church property as tenants in common.

2 That the administrative bodies of the congregations meet jointly at stated times to make necessary provisions for the use, maintenance, and improvement of the property jointly held; and that the expense incurred in the use, maintenance, and improvement of the common property be shared by the congregations under a plan which is agreeable to both congregations.

3. That each congregation have its own treasury and treasurer.

4. That each congregation make proper and necessary provision for the gathering and disbursement of its own funds in such manner as may be authorized and approved by its denomination; and that a "weekly envelope" and the "Every-Member-Visitation" or "Kingdom Roll Call" be considered as the most satisfactory means of meeting both the local and benevolent budgets; and wherever possible the time schedules for appeals for funds should be coordinated.

5. That, in Union Sunday Schools, the literature of one of the denominations be used on a three-year cycle -- e.g., the Evangelical and Reformed literature for one period, and the Lutheran literature for the next period, and thus alternating thereafter.

6. Whenever practicable each congregation shall recognize and develop the authorized auxiliary organizations of its own denomination for men, women and young people, in order that the denominational program may be adequately promoted. Wherever this is not found practicable it shall be understood that any and all auxiliary union organizations shall correlate their activities with the denominational programs.

7. Whenever it becomesevident that the disparity in financial and numerical strength between the two congregations works to the detriment of the whole program of the church, the Synod shall urge the smaller group to merge with a neighboring congregation of the same denomination or disband. When a congregation disbands its assets shall go to the parent Synod and its official body shall make provision for the spiritual welfare of its members. A congregation merging with another shall bring its assets to the congregation with which it unites.

8. Whenever the circumstances make it feasible, the union congregations in a parish or charge, or a given community, are urged to exchange buildings so that one church building houses a Lutheran congregation and the other an Evangelical and Reformed congregation.

9. Where conditions warrant - such as adequacy of fields and sufficient resources - the union arrangement might well be dissolved. Before proceeding with a building program following the dissolution of the union arrangement, consideration should be given to the possibility of exchanging buildings. In planning for new edifices subsequent to the separation every effort should be made to serve the community needs more effectively by the proper location of the new church building. All property values and equities shall be adjusted in a manner agreeable to both groups and in the spirit of Christian charity. All negotiations shall be carried on with the advice, knowledge, and consent of the Synodical authorities, and through comity arrangements which may apply in the local situation.

10. All members of a Union Church shall be urged to attend worship once a Sunday. Whenever one or both of the congregations in a Union situation express the desire for a service every Sunday, the Consistory or Church Council shall consult with the Synod President and Conference President before steps are initiated in this direction.

11. Whenever congregations in a Union church contemplate new construction or addition, the President of Synod and the Conference President shall be invited to meet with the Consistory and Church Council of said congregations.

4/57

A REPORT TO THE GENERAL COUNCIL CONCERNING THE COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION OF MIDWEST SYNOD

At the time that Midwest Synod was organized, as a result of the merger of the Iowa and Nebraska Synods, the constituting committee undertook a reorganization of the committees of Synod, a matter which had been discussed in the Iowa Synod for some time. This action was reported to the General Council and that body requested a report on the matter for the meeting of General Council in the fall of 1958. We, therefore, submit the following report:

First, an outline of how the standing committees of Synod are organized and the responsibilities they assume:

CHURCH AND MINISTRY COMMITTEE - Six pastors and three laymen.
Duties are those outlined in the By-Laws of the Evangelical and Reformed Church.

UNITED PROMOTION COMMITTEE - Six pastors and three laymen.
The committee is organized with a general chairman, who has responsibility for United Promotion, and secretary, and sub-chairmen for Visual Aids, Stewardship, and World Service.
The committee has responsibility for the areas indicated. The committee as a whole sets policy in all these fields and the sub-chairmen carry it out.

MISSIONS COMMITTEE - Six pastors and three laymen.
The committee is organized with a general chairman, a secretary and a treasurer for the Synod Mission Club. There are sub-chairmen for National Missions (eastern area), National Missions (western area), International Missions and Town and Country.
The committee has responsibility for the areas indicated. The entire committee sets policy in all areas, which is then carried out by the sub-chairmen.

CHRISTIAN ACTION COMMITTEE - Four pastors and two laymen.
There is a general chairman and sub-chairmen for Evangelism, Social Action and Pensions (administering the Synod Pension Fund).
The entire committee sets policy in all areas, which is then carried out by the sub-chairmen.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE - Nine pastors and three laymen.
The committee has a general chairman and secretary and sub-chairmen for Youth Work, Adult Work, Campus Ministry (Iowa), Campus Ministry (Nebraska), Family Life, Camps and Conferences, Children's Work, Missionary Education.
The entire committee sets policy on all these areas and the sub-chairmen carry out the decisions.

Secondly, the reasons for this type of organization:

1. We have to contend with great distances in Midwest Synod. As a result, small committees (International Missions, Evangelism, etc.) never met. It wasn't the cost, so much, that deterred meetings, but the time consumed in making the long trips for a very little business.
2. Because some of the committees had very little to do, members of these committees felt that a meeting was not worth the time and effort. If anything was done, it was done by the chairmen, and the rest of the committee members were such in name only. That is not a healthy situation in a democratic organization.
3. We feel we are complying with the spirit of the by-laws, if not with the letter, by meeting the following requirement:
   (a) Each agency that desires of having a Synod committee at least has a contact man, the sub-chairman in charge of that area.

(b) Each committee as reorganized has sufficient members on it to meet the By-Law requirement of at least two pastors and one layman for each committee. (That is, the Missions Committee could be an International Missions Committee of three members, a National Missions Committee of three members, and a Town and Country Committee of three members meeting together.)

Thirdly, a report on the success of this organization:

We in Midwest Synod feel that this reorganization has been of benefit. All of our committees have met at least once a year, and some oftener than that. Because there are fewer committee meetings, the President has been able to attend almost all of them as an ex-officio member. The entire work of the denomination is carried out, no area being neglected, and yet at the same time, a larger group are involved in making important policy decisions. A sub-chairman feels more secure in carrying out the program because he knows he has a committee, which has discussed the matter and set the policy, behind him.

We feel that we will continue to operate in this way because it is more efficient and more satisfying. If such a reorganization of committees presents constitutional problems, we will go back to the old method of electing all committees required, with a minimum number of members, who by common consent will then meet together in larger groups as we are doing now.

Since the fall meeting of the General Council will be held in Burlington, Iowa, I will be available for questioning about this matter if the Council so desires.

Respectfully submitted,

Ernst Press, President
Midwest Synod